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REEDY'S MIRROR

Vol. XXVI. No. 17

ST. LOUIS, FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1917

PRICE TEN CENTS

REEDY'S MIRROR

SYNDICATE TRUST BUILDING.

Telephones: Bell, Main 2147; Kinloch, Central 745.

All business communications should be addressed "Business Manager," Reedy's Mirror.

Entered at the Post Office at St. Louis, Mo., U. S. A., as second-class matter.

Terms of subscription to Reedy's Mirror, including postage in the United States and Mexico, \$3.00 per year; \$1.60 for six months; in Canada, Central and South America, \$3.50 per year; \$2.10 for six months. Subscriptions to all foreign countries \$4.00 per year.

Single copies, 10 cents.

Payments, which must be in advance, should be made by Check, Money Order or Registered Letter, payable to Reedy's Mirror, St. Louis.

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Reflections

By William Marion Reedy

Forced to Conscription

A STATE of war exists. A war must be fought by an army. We have no adequate army. The people are not volunteering for the army, although it may be said in their exculpation that there has not been issued any ringing call for volunteers. Also it may be said that volunteering would probably be more general if the government would state with some definiteness the character of service called for. There is a disinclination upon the part of men of military age to offer themselves for nothing more than routine duties. They do not take to the idea of enlisting for a long term of such service as was called for on the Mexican border, service that ended in nothing. Announce that an army is needed for action at the earliest possible moment on the western battle front in Europe and there would be a host of volunteers. But both officers and men who served on the Mexican border are lukewarm on the proposition of volunteering for a period of such resultlessness as they experienced on that expedition. Probably it would have been better had the President issued such a call for volunteers as Lincoln issued in 1861 before the precipitation of the discussion of conscription. Then volunteering probably had not been so lassitudinous. The conscription proposal was operated to discourage volunteering. What's the use in volunteering if a little later everybody is to be conscripted? There is no doubt that the conscription debate in congress is going to make conscription necessary and volunteering is to go practically untied. The state of war exists and there may conceivably be immediate need for an army at any time, however improbable such need may seem to arm-chair strategists. If the need comes and there be no army to meet it, the nation may be humiliated before the world. If we cannot get a volunteer army and no special effort is to be made to get the army through volunteering, we must get an army in the only other possible way—by conscription. It would seem to be either that or withdraw from the war upon which we have formally and solemnly entered. The fact is that the people seem to have decided for conscription. The principle of equality of service appeals to them. They do not believe that the few should make the sacrifices while the slackers flourish and prosper in the security provided by those willing to make the sacrifice. Moreover, selective conscription has a special appeal in that it promises to conduce towards efficiency. The war can be well and cheaply and quickly fought to a finish if the nation is organized for action on the basis of putting every man into such service as he is best equipped to render, whether at the front or in the mills and factories. That means a proper, co-ordinated concentration of the country's man-power.

That conscription is not democratic is a loud cry, but it doesn't hold good. If a democracy has not the right and power to command and coerce service in its own defense, it has no power against forces which may destroy it any day. If democracy has no power to conscript for war it has no power at all: it is only an aggregation of individuals or groups that may detach themselves at will from the national establish-

ment and the country becomes nothing but a mob of conflicting wills bent on the narrowest self-interests. The nation has no autonomy. If democracy means anything it must mean that each must surrender some things for the benefit of all. And the nation must in a crisis be able to compel service in war as it compels the payment of taxes, service on juries, and the settlement of private differences under forms of law. To say that the nation cannot compel military service is to say that it is no nation at all. A democratic nation in which any element refuses to fight for democratic principles must, in order to survive, force the recalcitrants into its fighting organization. When the advocates of the volunteer system do not volunteer, they must be made to yield the service their own contention recognizes as necessary. The country would have more faith in the volunteer system if there were more volunteering. And furthermore, there would be more confidence in volunteering if in the advocacy of that system the pro-Germans throughout the country were not so viciously vocal.

So far as concerns the iniquity of coercion or compulsion, there is to be said that in the raising of a volunteer army there is a deal of coercion uglier in many respects than any compulsion that may be exercised by the government. The pinning of white feathers on those who have not signed up; the cry of "slacker" against the man who may not be in khaki for some thoroughly good reason; the imputation of cowardice on every hand; the persecution of men who may have been rejected, in some cases driving the victims to suicide—all these things were known in England while the volunteer plan of raising an army was being followed. There was in operation a kind of mob conscription. When England decided upon official conscription all this was done away with.

Moreover, under the volunteer system it was found in England that the best men went to the front while the worst remained. The workers volunteered; the loafers did not. It was discovered that the navy was endangered by the diminution of the coal supply because of the rush of miners to enlist, and that the munition factories and other places for the making of supplies were short of hands for the same reason. These men who volunteered had to be drafted back to the mines and shops. In France, too, mechanics had to be sent from the ranks to the foundries, though France has compulsory service. Needless to say, this effect of the volunteer system was most costly, not alone in money, but in life. Under selective conscription in this country we shall avoid all that. We shall, so far as is humanly possible, put each man in the place where he can best serve. There will be a minimum of wasted effort and a maximum of efficiency. Our selective conscription will get us two armies at once; one on the fighting line, the other behind the line supplying the fighters. Someone will say we might get the same result through volunteering. But where are the volunteers? And if the volunteers be left to select their own service we should be burdened with *corps d'elite* that would be in their own and everyone else's way.

So, though I cannot say that I think the volunteers have been quite so insistently and vigorously called for as they might have been, the inescapable logic of conscription has forced thousands who would have volunteered to wait for the draft. The volunteer system has been killed, apparently. But a state of war exists. A state of war calls for an

army. And we must get our army in the only way we can get it—by selective conscription.

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A Way to Pay for the War

How is the war to be paid for? By taxes, of course. But shall the country stand for taxing the breakfast table? Shall the poor worker be taxed on his tea and coffee and sugar? Shall all the taxes fall upon industry and none upon privilege? The president has called upon the middleman to "forego his usual profits." The president's secretary of the treasury proposes taxes upon manufacturers' profits, more taxes upon brewers and distillers, more taxes on railroads, more taxes on incomes, whether earned or unearned, taxes on movies, taxes on theaters, taxes on baseball, taxes upon everything and everybody—except the one thing and the one class of people whose profits mostly escape taxation at all times—land values and landlords. What of the seven billion dollars we have voted for the war? In the first place, the people who invest in the war loans will pay no taxes on their bonds. They will be a tax-exempt class. And the money they put in the loan is money that should be invested in railroads and in manufacture. Most of the loan and treasury certificates will be expended here. Such expenditure will boom business of every kind. What is the chief and most lasting result of a business boom? Simply that the money is absorbed by land values. The billions expended here by ourselves and our allies will enhance the values of farms and city lots. The increase in land values will mean higher rents and higher prices for land. Everybody is asked in effect to "forego unusual profits"—everybody but the landlord. Even Uncle Sam Gompers half way guarantees there will not be any strikes for higher wages during the war. The landlord doesn't guarantee anything. He, like *Bre'r Rabbit*, "jest lays low and says nuffin;" everything is coming his way. The government won't lend any of its credit to the railroads for extension and rehabilitation, but it is giving all kinds of money to the landlords, and of what it gives there is no come-back, for the increment of the land values is not to be taxed. The Kansas City Real Estate Board is so rejoiced over this that it advertises the fact gleefully in that city's daily papers as an argument to people with money to put that money where the collectors of war taxes cannot get it. There will be a certain conscription of wealth in the imposition of heavier income taxation, and this is just in so far as a great deal of the larger incomes are from privilege in land ownership in various forms, but the conscription of wealth in land values on any proper scale is not contemplated. While farmers, manufacturers, merchants, and wage workers are patriotically foregoing tempting opportunities for better returns, the land owner will charge them higher rents or exact bigger land prices from them, for the privilege of doing useful work. A resolution has been introduced in congress for a constitutional amendment which will allow federal levy of a direct land value tax in the same way as the income tax is levied. The president's powerful influence cast in favor of this proposition would do much to put a stop to such opportunities for levying toll on industry as the Kansas City Real Estate Board hails with such unfeigned delight. The constitutional amendment proposal should be taken up by all the states for all or most of them may have to call special sessions of their legislatures to meet new conditions brought about by the war. War will benefit no class of people more than landowners and the beneficiaries of the war should pay for the war. Failing the levying of a tax upon land values for war purposes, the government should tax not only the war bonds but all political bonds. Secretary McAdoo suggested the possibility of such a tax three weeks ago, but it has not been heard from since in that quarter.

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Prohibition and the War

It is proposed that the breweries and distilleries be shut down during the war as a measure of grain

conservation. We may have to come to it. But if the distilling industry is stopped, the owners of distillery stock will not suffer. The shut-down will boost incalculably the price of every gallon of product they have in storage. The \$1.50 quart will go to \$5 or even more almost at once. And if the shut-down be accompanied by a war tax greater than the tax now paid, we may be sure the price will go to a figure that will more than take care of the tax. The people will pay the tax and the added price due to limitation of supply as well. The brewers will not enjoy such opportunities as the distillers under the proposed closing order. Beer drinking will be diminished or stopped altogether, but whiskey drinking will be increased and the quality of the whiskey we may be sure will not be improved. This will not advance the cause of temperance. And it will add to the burden of the least wealthy elements of the country. So far as prohibition is concerned, the threat thereof has been withdrawn. The liquor business affords a mark for the revenue raisers. Why prohibit what can be taxed almost *ad lib.*? But the liquor dealers do not pay the liquor taxes. Those taxes, like every other tax, are paid by the consumers of the product and in fact by all the people. The only tax that cannot be shifted from the man who should pay it is the tax that takes the full rental value of land. If we have prohibition the people will not specifically pay the liquor tax, but they will pay in other taxes the amount necessary to make up for the absence of the liquor revenue.

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The Conference at Washington

ONE may only surmise as to the subjects of discussion between the president and his cabinet and the members of the commissions from Great Britain and France, at Washington. We may be reasonably assured that one thing agreed upon will be that there shall be no separate peace made by any of the allies with the common enemy. Beyond that, conjecture is as limitless as fancy. Plainly enough the gentlemen representing Great Britain and France can tell the president and his advisers many things that both nations have learned through their mistakes in the prosecution of the war. They can show us how to avoid those and like mistakes as we enter the melee. They can tell our leaders many things learned from the enemy as well. They know where they need the most help to an early ending of the war and can show ways in which it can be supplied. We know they need money and ships to furnish supplies. It is highly probable, too, that they need men more than we have suspected heretofore. The drain upon the man-power of France has been something more terrible than we have imagined. Though France makes no complaint, she must be in desperate straits, and while it is evident that our resources would be of incalculable aid to Russia, now somewhat disorganized as a result of the revolution, the consensus of opinion is that the war must be settled on the western front. It seems to me that the commissioners from Great Britain and France will lay stress upon the importance not only of our prompt action at sea to end the submarine menace, but of sending an army abroad at the earliest hour that we can get it there. Some cynical folk have remarked that Great Britain gets the first loan from our war-chest, but the fact is not significant of British greed. Great Britain has to help all the allies with money and in addition she is called upon by the necessities of the situation to keep her allies in food and other supplies. Great Britain borrows because her credit is the best, under present conditions, and she is best equipped to look after the commissariat.

It is not at all likely that the conference at Washington will consider any details of peace having to do with the special national interests of the Entente Allies. The United States can hardly go into the minutiae of any contemplated partition of Europe after the war. In all probability this country will take the position that it will only agree to something

like a League of Peace for the maintenance of the status agreed upon by the original belligerents. The Entente and the Teutonic powers will frame a peace treaty on lines calculated to prevent a breach of the peace. Their clashing interests will be reconciled, with the vanquished powers somewhat brought to subjection. We may say after the war is over that our only interest is an enduring peace, and our influence will be thrown in support of such terms as promise to leave the least rancor after the war. As for the right of the smaller nations for which specifically we have declared in entering the war, they will be agreed to by Germany to the extent that her defeat will force her to agree. I doubt if we shall stand for any such course with regard to Germany's navy as was imposed by the conquerors of Prussia in the past when they limited the army to 17,000 men. What we may have to say about the colonies Germany has lost is problematical. The Entente will probably demand that they be surrendered as part of the reparation for the wrongs done Belgium. Possibly we might insist upon the deposition of the Kaiser, if the German people do not depose him before defeat, but in all these matters we may be sure that President Wilson will walk warily, for the people of the United States have not made up their minds on these points. The one thing they surely are agreed upon is that this country shall not pull any chestnuts out of the fire for Great Britain.

A fact we must not forget is that the present conference is not for the framing of a treaty. No treaty can be made without the consent of the United States senate and any treaty with relation to the war will have to be made public down to its last comma. There cannot be any binding "understanding" as a result of this conference. A secret treaty is impossible. Many things of the past, the present and the future of the war may be discussed, but there will be no treaty. This may not be generally understood. It looks as if Italy does not understand it, for she is sending a commission to Washington. Japan is not going to be left out. Nor Russia. When one thinks of the clash of interests between Great Britain, France, Italy, Russia, Japan after the war, one realizes that a strong possibility of the peace congress is that the United States' chief function therein will be to keep the present allies from each others' throats. There is plenty of latent war in the coming peace congress and the United States does not want anything of war over the division of the spoils. Our best effort will be devoted, after bringing about a cessation of this war, to keeping out of the wars that may grow out of that peace. In this aspect of affairs lies the importance of President Wilson's proposals of a peace league of nations. If the United States can emerge with that from the peace congress, great will be its glory, but it must be confessed that the idea of such a peace league of nations does not appeal to those nations which see in it primarily nothing but a confirmation and perpetuation of British supremacy all around the globe. Germany talked of such a league when she deemed herself victorious—a peace that would establish *Mittel Europa* from Antwerp to Bagdad and write *Fuit* over the map where Britain's empire was once displayed. But Germany with clipped wings will dream of future flights. Japan will not be hobbled in the East. With Germany subdued, the end of imperial aggrandizement will not have come. The end of the alliance we have formed no man can see. We may read and re-read the president's war address to the congress and rejoice in its sentiments, but we may as well confess to ourselves that it is going to be no easy matter to put those sentiments into operation. They were more probable of application to a "peace without victory" than they will be to a peace forced by the sword. It is perfectly clear from surface indications that Great Britain is the dominant partner in the Entente and it is far from plain that she will relinquish anything that makes her mistress of the world. It is dubious that even these *post bellum* matters I mention so vaguely will

be much discussed in the Washington conference. The one important thing there is to unite on plans to defeat the Teutonic powers. After the defeat has been accomplished, the framing of a peace will be in order, and it well may be that the United States will not have the weight of influence and authority in the congress that we Americans think it should have. Great Britain is very sweet to us now, but with the war won she may not give practical as she now gives sentimental and academic assent to our proposals. With Germany out of the way as a rival, she may not be so amenable to this country's suggestions for the governance of the world. So while being in the war this country will fear not at all, we will be wise if we hope not for too much. Of course we are fighting for democracy, but we are primarily saving Great Britain from the gravest danger she has known since the Armada, and she will not look altogether kindly for long upon her savior when that savior is a rival more portentous than was Germany. We may depend upon it that President Wilson is not going to commit the country now to anything beyond arrangements to bring the war to a successful conclusion. The rest is on the knees of the gods.

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Propaganda

It seems to me as an old newspaper man that the war cablegrams from London are palpably sweetened for our consumption. There is a suspicious wealth of descriptive stuff in them and a gorgeous assumption that the Entente armies are having things their own way. Doubtless Germany is retreating and a retreat is not a victory, but the news from the front is too much like stuff colored for our side to be wholly satisfactory. We are getting very little news from Germany, and that through English hands. Of all this rosy dope I am suspicious, just as I take the stories of peace proposals as savoring strongly of pacifist or pro-German purpose to dampen American enthusiasm for the war. All peace talk helps to keep down volunteering and to encourage opposition to conscription. The fact that Germany hasn't taken any action with regard to our declaration of war is a sign that the leaders over there know their inaction helps to delay our mobilization. The pro-German propaganda in this country is not abandoned. The *Westliche-Post* and the *Amerika* in St. Louis are doing all they can to discourage volunteering, to discredit conscription and to put a wrong construction upon such things as Brand Whitlock's report on the deportations from Belgium. If our optimistic victory news from the western front is propaganda, it is a mistake in that it spreads the belief that the war will soon be over and there is no need that we should go in with all our might. The German propaganda is much more clever.

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The Fight on the Draft

We had a draft under Lincoln, in our Civil War. Those who most opposed it were the copperheads, the people who were at heart in sympathy with the cause against which the draft was applied. A good deal of the pacifism and anti-conscriptionism of to-day is another manifestation of copperheadism. All anti-conscriptionists are not pro-Germans, but all pro-Germans are anti-conscriptionists. And you'll observe that the anti-conscriptionist members of congress are mostly men with large German constituencies: their jobs are more important to them than their country's safety or honor.

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Why Not a Dog-Corps?

In the feverish activity of military preparedness which now engages our country there is one branch that should not be longer neglected, that is, the training of dogs to rescue the wounded, serve as messengers and do outpost duty. In a very interesting article on this subject in the April *Military*

Surgeon, Captain E. C. Jones of the United States army medical corps is authority for the statement that the United States, China and Japan are the only large countries which do not use dogs in their armies.

Inspired by the excellent work done by the dogs of the monastery of St. Bernard in rescuing lost travelers, the Germans conceived the idea of using them to rescue the wounded left on the battlefields and began training them as long ago as 1885. Schools were established, definite schedules were carried on in the training of the dogs and they had regular hours of instruction, the same as recruits. After completing its schooling the dog was put through an examination and the results filed on the dog's descriptive card. The dog was then assigned to a field battalion and during all field exercises was required to do messenger, outpost and sanitary duty. At the opening of the war the German army had not less than two thousand of these dogs and it is estimated that twenty-five hundred of them have been continuously engaged; a dog hospital is maintained at Jena where the sick and wounded ones are given every care. As according to modern warfare the greater part of rescue work must be done at night when either a light or a noise would attract the fire of the enemy, the dogs are taught to carry the cap or handkerchief or any part of the wounded soldier's equipment to the litter bearers and then lead the litter bearers to the injured man. The dogs pay no attention to the dead. The Germans report that in December, 1915, more than eight hundred men are known to have been saved by the dogs after the search had been abandoned by the litter bearers. Recently these dogs have been taught to carry ropes to the wounded in front of the trenches, which enable the men in the trenches to pull the wounded back in. While that is doubtless a most painful process, it is far better than being left to die.

France, usually so quick to perceive the excellence of anything and to adapt it to her needs, did not accept the idea of army dogs until 1908, notwithstanding two of her army officers had been vainly trying to interest the government for sixteen years. The French now have a large training school south of Paris, although at the outbreak of the war they had only about fifty dogs. French dogs have been mentioned in the *communiqués* and awarded the War Cross Star. One of them, Lutz, the dog-hero of Verdun, is chronicled thus: "Employed as an advanced sentinel during the night of February 21st, he first gave warning of the general attack by repeated growls, and impelled attention."

That the Russians now have these dogs in their army is due to the kindly generosity of the German kaiser—even he has one kind deed to his credit—who made the Russian army a present of three during the Russo-Japanese war. They so proved their worth that trained dogs soon became a feature of the Russian army.

In England there are various societies interested in the training of dogs but up to the beginning of the war the government had given them but little support. Italy, Sweden, Holland, all have their dog-training schools. The German sheep dog of pure breed has been found the best for the purpose, although a few Belgian sheep dogs and a few bird dogs are also trained.

Our own country seems to be the only civilized one entirely without army dogs or schools for their training. This is particularly regrettable considering that two wise, wealthy and public-spirited citizens imported a number of these trained German sheep dogs, built kennels with every modern equipment and convenience, and offered the use of the dogs and the kennels to the government absolutely free of charge. They also offered to defray the expenses of sending an army officer to Germany to learn the method of training and the use of these dogs, and they further offered to feed the dogs and maintain the kennels. The government was merely required

to give the officer three months' leave with permission to visit Europe and eighteen months' leave on half pay upon his return, to detail or place on an indefinite furlough status three hospital corps men, and—if the experiment was found a success—to establish a dog training school. These two public-spirited men were also willing to pay the officer the difference between half and full pay so that he might lose nothing. If the experiment was not found a success the whole matter was to be dropped and the government released from all liability for any expense whatsoever. Strange to say, this offer, made in the spring of 1916, was rejected. For obvious reasons, the plan as originally outlined cannot be put into operation now. Nevertheless there must be some way, even though a poorer one, in which the government can add to the army this valuable adjunct. Even now there is a training school at Engelwood, New Jersey. Since Washington is said to be planning for a three or five-year war, would it not be well for congress to rush means for this department of national defense along with city-lot gardening and wooden-hull ships?

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The Programme of Herr Schmidt

An important measure before congress is the Webb bill which proposes that the prohibitions upon combinations in restraint of trade in this country shall not apply to associations of merchants and manufacturers for the expansion of trade with foreign countries. It would be well for the members of congress to read the article in this issue, "Herr Schmidt's Thesis," before voting upon the Webb bill. The author of the article, Mr. Nicholas A. Doyle, presents in imaginative form the process by which Germany was enabled to take away so much of the world's trade from Great Britain. Germany sold goods outside of Germany at figures as close to actual cost as were consistent with a merely nominal profit, while the same goods were sold at a better profit to the people at home, the prices in both cases being fixed by the German government. This country might do the same thing, though I am not saying that the programme strikes me as being purely ethical. The Webb bill contemplates permitting our business concerns to do this. Mr. Doyle takes the German plan and supposes it applied by all the nations after the war. As he presents it, the fancy has much of the charm of his article some weeks ago in which he outlined Kaiser Wilhelm's proclamation of abandonment of autocracy. That this forecast of the nations forcing their business men to adjust their profits on foreign and domestic trade in such a way as to get foreign business for the nation as a whole and to conduct domestic business upon an individualistic but closely regulated basis is socialism in *excelsis*. It is, however, what Big Business has done in this country in the past. And to call a thing socialistic now is not necessarily to condemn it. The very meat, bones and marrow of the Webb bill is contained in Mr. Doyle's article, but he applies the principle to all the civilized nations in their dealings with one another. If Germany secured her enormous foreign business in the way described, and there is no doubt she did, why is not the method good for every other nation? If all the nations go in for this German method of fostering foreign trade, I should say the result would be that the best organized nation that could manufacture goods most cheaply would get the most foreign trade. However that may be, I am sure that all readers of the *MIRROR* who are interested in the problem of foreign trade will find clarification of their ideas and valuable suggestion for national fostering of foreign trade in Mr. Doyle's lucid presentation of "Herr Schmidt's Thesis."

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How Stands Mexico?

AMBASSADOR FLETCHER has issued a statement in Mexico setting forth that the relations between this

country and the Carranza government are growing friendlier all the time and that there is no prospect of war between the nations. We have seen that Carranza's ambassador at Washington has said much the same thing. He has declared that Mexico will remain neutral and will not embarrass this country in any way during the war. Nevertheless, there is good reason to suppose that trouble is brewing along the Mexican border, whence our troops were so recently withdrawn. Ambassador Fletcher's statement cannot be disputed, of course, but carefully read, it looks like a diplomatic *placebo* for immediate effect both here and there.

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Bethmann-Hollweg Holds On

UNDOUBTEDLY the wish is father to the thought in the stories of the imminent fall from power of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg. He has been falling now for nearly three years, but has not struck yet. Now one element in Germany is said to have accomplished his ruin, and now another. Yesterday it was the ruthless war party that had undone him. To-day it is the peace party that has taken his scalp. But somehow he sticks, no matter how many other men of note in the nation's councils are sent to Coventry. Von Bethmann-Hollweg is our enemy now, of course, but he is a master politician. He can make a speech as smooth as Asquith and yet as frank as one by Lloyd-George. His most daring expression, that about the "scrap of paper" at the beginning of the war, illustrates his courage and his appreciation of Teutonic governmental ethics. His peace speeches were marvels of appearing to say what he had no intention of saying. He has survived von Kluck and von Tirpitz and has held his own against von Hindenburg. He has let the Kaiser do the talking about electoral reforms in Germany after the war, and he has been able to conciliate the Socialists whom he did not suppress. Whatever may be his shortcomings, von Bethmann-Hollweg looms up in the history of the war as a chancellor who knows when to be daring and when to be merely adroit. He has weathered many a storm and so far as one can judge through haze and distance, his general conduct of affairs has been such as to mark him as a general executive worthy of the machine he directs. If there have been blunders in the war on the side of Germany, and there are not lacking signs that the war as a whole is a blunder, the blame is not his. The war-plan antedates von Bethmann-Hollweg. The chances are that a higher than the chancellor will fall before he does. And one of the best reasons for believing he will not be demoted and superseded is that there does not seem to be anyone in Germany equipped to take his place. The chancellor has not yet lost favor with the Kaiser or with any strong element in the Reichstag. At least there is nothing to show he is nearer a fall now than he was when he was supposed to be holding out against the ruthless policy in submarine warfare.

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Champ

CHAMP CLARK, speaker of the House of Representatives, is out against conscription. As a Missourian he misrepresents Missouri, as so often before. But Clark hates Bryan and Bryan having gone out of opposition to the war, Clark must get on the other side at once. Champ is a small man with a large voice and a vast familiarity with McGuffey's Sixth Reader.

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The Police Scandal

ST. LOUIS' police force is so busy gathering graft for legislation increasing the salaries of its members that we are foolish to expect it to waste any time or effort in attempts to capture the automobile bandits or the perpetrators of the epidemic gang-murders. But the revelation of the fact that the force was to put up \$10,000 to pay a legislative agent for securing a salary increase through the legislature is

a splendid demonstration of the criminal folly of having this city's police department controlled from Jefferson City. Every police-pay bill has been marked by a graft scandal. The members of the force are asked to put up a bribe for legislation favorable to themselves. The law-enforcers are law-breakers. The force should be purged of its bribe-fund solicitors and the department should be brought under the control of the city that has to pay the members what the legislature ordains. This latest scandal is another powerful argument for home rule for St. Louis.

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Not a Bad but a Good Break

I SAID last week that Governor Gardner made a mistake in vetoing the appropriation of \$50,000 for maintaining shops and factories for the employment of the blind. The governor has explained his action in a convincing statement. He says that he must cut expenses in order that he may fulfill the conditions upon which he has borrowed \$2,300,000 from St. Louis banks to pay the state's bills. He shows that he has provided for the payment of the \$12,500 appropriated for this work of the blind two years ago but never paid by the preceding administration. He has provided for the additional payment of \$1,000 interest on that sum. Not only that, but Governor Gardner has provided out of the loan a \$12,000 deficit in the appropriation for the blind school with interest of \$900. So far from the governor's having failed to do anything for the blind people of the state, he has increased the appropriation for their benefit of over \$30,000, or more than 35 per cent. And beautifully topping off this statement the governor subscribes personally \$250 to the fund for the support of the workshops for the blind—a fund which the former administration voted to duplicate but never provided the money. In view of the desperate condition of the state finances, necessitating the paring down of all expenses, and considering that the charitable people of the state had already enlisted in support of the blind workers, the governor concluded that he would save the state's money for the state eleemosynary institutions which receive no charitable aid from private contributions. He decided to help the poor who needed help and leave the blind workers to the care of those private contributors already committed to the sustention of the shops. The blame for the condition described is not this administration's. The blind were deserted and defrauded by the former incompetent state management. Governor Gardner's explanation is a triumphant vindication. I am sorry I wrote before I had the facts in hand.

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A Certain Advertisement

ELSEWHERE in this issue the gentle reader will find a full page advertisement signed by the most prominent and responsible real estate agents of the city of St. Louis, setting forth the realty opportunities in this city and celebrating in almost lyric ecstasy the potentialities for wealth of the vacant lot. I hope all MIRRORITES will read that advertisement carefully. It is the best single tax argument I have ever printed. It could hardly have been better written by Henry George himself. It shows how land values are made, how everybody creates them by individual and communal effort, and the fellow who does nothing but hold the land pockets that value. The vacant lot is the best wealth-absorber, for it costs money to put up buildings. The big real estate men of this city "see the cat" all right, but they don't say "scat!" to it. They say the graft is here right under everyone's nose and they invite all who have a little coin to get in on it. Their advertising should make lots of single taxers in St. Louis, though they don't intend that it should do so. They invite all and singular to a fat participation in the unearned increment. They are ready to sell to anyone a claim upon the industry of everyone who helps to build

up the city. "We are advertised by our loving friends."

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Jones and Bilheimer and O'Neil

I WOULD direct the attention of St. Louis to two St. Louisans—Mr. James C. Jones and Mr. W. E. Bilheimer. We need two hundred like them. They are doing things. They have raised by popular subscription a fund to buy the Cardinal baseball team. They have pulled the Mercantile club out of a big debt. They have raised a fund to provide employment for the blind. They have done this by splendid advertising salesmanship blended with methods that would be revivalistic if they were not essentially rational. This is the kind of work that St. Louis needs. It is work into which brain and heart must be put. It is not mere vamping generalization and resolving. Mr. Jones told a gathering of business men the other evening that this city would secure more new business establishments if a body of two hundred men would get down to work and make systematic effort to induce manufacturers to locate here. Such a body should look into any legitimate proposal to establish a factory here and then go out and help the concern desiring to set up shop to get not only a site, but money. Such prospective comers should not be left to the chilly conservatism of more or less aged bankers seeking nothing but certain returns. St. Louisans should welcome the newcomer and go in with him. The right kind of a committee would not have let Ford, the automobile man, or Gillette, the razor man, take their plants elsewhere. They would have examined the books and discovered the splendid chances those projects contained. Such a committee led by men like Messrs. Jones and Bilheimer, fortified with the facts, would have raised enough money and put it into the businesses to have kept the enterprises here. In the past, when men have come here to start factories they have been shown sites out of sight in price but they have been offered no inducement whatever to stay. The men who have put in their money under the stimulus of the campaigns of Messrs. Jones and Bilheimer to save the Cardinals, to rescue the Mercantile club from bankruptcy and to provide an endowed work for the blind, are the men who can bring new businesses to St. Louis. This city needs hustlers who will not only talk for things but work for things with whole-heartedness. In line with this work of the two men I have mentioned I would refer to another example of what a hustler can do. The navy was seeking recruits here for two weeks but you'd never have known it, until Joseph O'Neil got interested and went to the assistance of the lieutenant in charge, started the newspapers to work to save the city and state from the disgrace of falling short of raising its quota, waked up the prominent citizens who thought they had done their bit by hanging out a flag, and moved a state business conference to aid in getting the men. There's nothing in the old St. Louis form of public spirit that consists in passing a resolution that a thing shall be done and then going home and regarding the thing as done. We need more Joneses and Bilheimers and O'Neils. Then we will have a bigger town and better.

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Baby Week

By W. M. R.

A CRYING need of the hour is a national commission for the suppression of fool work for the country. It is well of course that everyone wants to do his or her "bit," but one has only to read the daily papers with their multitudinous stories of organizations and movements whose proposals of service indicate nothing more than an unreasoning waste of energy to realize that while impulse to effort and sacrifice is laudable, the impulse should be regulated. It is magnificent, but it is not good sense, for example, for women to try to

enlist in the army and navy. They are rushing into other forms of effort where they will be of little use. In some cases they may render effective service, but not in the cases where they strive to participate in work that were better done by men. The women are no worse than the groups of young men of means who want to make up parties to fight, on land or sea, in which they shall all be friends together and in which they shall not be subject to ordinary discipline. There are the young men, too, who want to help, if only they may be officers, not rookies. They want to build and equip boats for the government and enter upon naval service about as they would go on a yachting cruise. Government wants no pink-tea service such as this. So with many things which women want to do for the cause. They propose things that would only get them in the way of effective mobilization of resources. They collect and expend money that could be used to better ends. What people stirred by patriotic impulse need to remember is that in this emergency what each should do is to render better service along the lines to which they are most accustomed and in which they can do best what they know best.

The best way the women can help in the war is not by enlisting and not even in recruiting, and we are to be spared the English spectacle of their nagging and kiss-giving in the acceleration of volunteering. They cannot do much in the matter of improving agricultural production. We don't hold with the Kaiser of a decade ago that women should concern themselves exclusively with church, kitchen and children. Germany's women have splendidly shown that they can serve effectively beyond those limitations. So, American women can do other things than the Kaiser had in mind, but they can and should do a more important thing first. Recently, according to the *New Republic*, Dr. Josephine Baker, Director of the New York Bureau of Child Hygiene, told a club of women who were anxious to place their lives at the service of the country, about the needs of the city's children. Before the discussion could begin, a woman rose at the left of the audience, another at the right; scattered through the hall they sprang to their feet.

"Madame President! Madame President! Was this meeting called to discuss the feeding of children or preparations for war?"

"I want to nurse wounded soldiers!"

"But what are we going to do for our country?"

When Dr. Baker said that it was her duty to go on with the work of caring for the children, there were exclamations of protest.

"Of course," one woman insisted; "but what will you do to help win the war?"

"They did not seem," says the *New Republic*, "to grasp the significance of what the war has already done to our American children." They did not seem, to quote from the same paper, that "it is in the second line of defense that women can give the most effective war service—the line where after the actual provision for their fighting men the efforts of all the belligerents are concentrated—the line that protects their children."

We are told that medical examination has discovered more than one hundred and sixty thousand children in New York's secondary schools who "show the stigmata of prolonged under-nourishment." Under-nourished children means children unavailable for work for the nation. There is something wrong when children are found in such numbers underfed in a time of peace and prosperity. This is a condition that has prompted the celebration of Baby Week throughout the country, a movement inaugurated by the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor. It may be thought that only in large cities do babies suffer and die through lack of care. Here in prosperous Missouri, last year, seven thousand babies died before their first birthday, mostly from preventable diseases. It is a fair assumption that war will make conditions worse. There may be an era of good wages, but wages do not catch up with prices and the children suffer the

more. Here is a paragraph from the *New Republic's* article, "The Second Line of Defense."

"In its April Bulletin, the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics prints a comparative table of wage increases and the increased cost of food as reported by the principal trades in forty-eight of the leading cities for the past ten years. During that decade weekly wage rates rose 16 per cent; retail food prices 39 per cent. Of these increases, 5 per cent in wages and 14 per cent in food prices followed the outbreak of the war. In addition to this gross disparity, food prices made a further advance of 23 per cent during January and February of 1917, while wages advanced from 10 to 15 per cent, and this in a few industries only. To the increase in the cost of food must be added the increase in the cost of shoes, clothing and rent. Statistics on these items are difficult to assemble, but the *New York Times* reports that rents in some parts of New York have risen from 10 to 15 per cent during the past year—enough to absorb a large part of the average increase in wages."

There is a showing which indicates that under-nourishment of children must be widespread, and under-nourishment means that children are more liable to all sorts of diseases when they are under-nourished. If the wage scale remains stationary as the Council of Defense seems determined it shall, especial effort must be put forth to take care of the little ones, to save them from the consequences of poverty, ignorance and neglect.

Baby Week, from May 1st to May 6th, is designed to excite public interest in this most important of all conservation movements, and to stimulate that interest just before the coming of summer when the baby mortality is heaviest. In St. Louis headquarters will be maintained at 710-716 Olive street. It will be a baby-conservation fair, participated in by the Queen's Daughters, the municipal and visiting nurses' organizations, the Tuberculosis Society, the Social Hygiene Society, the Prevention Committee of the Missouri Commission for the Blind, the Society for the Control of Cancer, the Committee on the Control of Syphilis, the Prenatal Care and Social Service Department of Washington University, the St. Louis Medical Society, the City Health Department, the Maternity Hospital, the Children's Home Society of Missouri, the Jewish Educational and Charitable Association, the Children's Hospital, the W. C. T. U., and the Hygiene and Psycho-Educational Department of the Public Schools. At this center there will be held open mental examinations and demonstrations of psychological clinics with bearing upon the mental welfare of children. There will be in operation diet kitchens, displays of model layettes, clothing, and a Montessori school. Moreover there will be given at the various branch libraries, schools, settlement houses and other places in the city and county, lectures by physicians and welfare workers on preventive measures, the care of milk, prenatal care, food preparation, bathing, and indeed every phase of infant welfare work. Surely this work should be of good effect in instructing mothers how to take care of themselves first and their children later. Maybe a result of the Baby Week interest will be the establishment of such a system of child hygiene here as they have in New York, where the Child Hygiene Bureau employs more than three hundred nurses, one hundred and eighty-seven medical inspectors, ten dentists, two surgeons, fifty-eight nurses' assistants and almost one hundred other men and women. We have the beginnings of such a work here, but Baby Week should create a popular demand for the work's extension. There should be more concern for the conduct of our school lunches; we should have a system of infant-health stations with co-operation of all activities—nurses, settlements, clinics, hospitals. Here are activities for which women may well volunteer, and those activities will reach out from child conservation to more immediate contact with war. The women who take up this organized effort for the babies will find that they will in time be fitted for war-nursing, for surgeons' assistants, etc. They will find themselves

moving up close to the first line of defense. They will be doing something worth while for their country.

But somebody ought to be on hand at all the Baby Week meetings to tell the people who visit the exhibits and listen to the lectures that the best way to save babies is to change the conditions that make for undernourishment, needless early mortality, bad environment and poverty generally. It will be well to remember during Baby Week that baby weeks would not be necessary if the fathers of babies could get the full product of their labor, if the fruits of industry were not taxed for the benefit of untaxed privilege. Babies could not starve in slums if slums were abolished by confiscating rent. The baby welfare workers should know that they labor in vain if they do not labor to destroy economic conditions that slaughter the innocents and degrade the adults. Baby Week is a good time to remember that the first thing to abolish is poverty, and that this can be done by simple enactments which will prevent the taking of wealth from those who earn it and the giving of that wealth to those who do not earn it.

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Herr Schmidt's Thesis

By Nicholas A. Doyle

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE TO THE CONFERENCE OF ALL NATIONS AT THE HAGUE, JULY 4, 1921.

Y OUR committee approached with misgiving the solution of the problem with which it had to deal. It was apparent that some change in past practices was imperative, but the difficulty of overcoming long-established customs and giving practical effect to the golden rule, which must control all international relations if these are to be mutually satisfactory, seemed very great, and your committee hardly hoped that its report would offer an immediately workable and simple solution.

However, we determined to give all experts on the subject fair hearing. Many interesting suggestions were made, and we desire particularly to mention Mr. Walter Lippman, of the United States of America, who discussed the subject from the standpoint taken in his book, "The Stakes of Diplomacy." Mr. Lippman, however, while of the clearest intelligence, seems rather *ante bellum* in his outlook; we felt we were dealing with a new world, to be governed in a new spirit. If international relations were to continue *ante bellum* we would recommend to the conference Mr. Lippman's plan.

The committee heard many other students of the subject and gleaned much information from them. In due course full details of the hearings will be published for the general information of the public, and at that time credit will be given to each of the earnest men and women who appeared before us, to assist in our labors.

It was not, however, until the appearance of Herr Rudolph Schmidt, of the commercial division of the late German war staff, that full light was thrown on the subject and a simple solution revealed itself. All the others who volunteered information or suggestions were students, dealing in, for the most part, pure theory, or business men who were somewhat, in the larger sense of the problem, inarticulate. Herr Schmidt had had the widest experience in operating the machinery of international trade, and, we believe, is fully warranted in calling himself a thorough expert on the subject, both theoretically and practically.

For the information of the conference we give a brief resumé of his statement:

On my return to Germany after several years spent in commercial affairs abroad, for my Doctor's degree I wrote a thesis on the subject of foreign trade. As was the practice, this was submitted to the member of the War Staff at the University, and about two weeks later I was notified that the publication of it was inadvisable for good reasons, and, I was ordered to report at once to the Chief of the Commercial Department of the Staff in

Berlin. I knew then that the theory I had stated was either new or so expressed as to furnish an undesirable point of view to those other governments that the Staff considered possible enemies, or fair prey for the superior force it might exert when the opportune time came. I packed all my notes and memoranda, as was customary, and carried them with me to the office.

My interview with the Chief was brief. The thesis was on the table before him.

"Herr Doctor," he said, "His Imperial Majesty has read your thesis and orders me to express to you his personal satisfaction with your work, which he desires shall remain unpublished. Also, he orders that your ideas be given immediate effect. Here is your commission on the Staff. Your office is Room 709. Herr Stahl, of the South German Steel Co., is waiting to see you. Report progress. Good day."

I thanked him for the honor and proceeded to my office, where I found Herr Stahl, whose steel plant was the second greatest in Germany.

"What is it you want?" I asked.

"The Staff has ordered that my plant be operated to the full capacity," he replied.

"Well?"

"We cannot sell all our output now."

"How about the foreign trade?"

"We are doing all we can. The English, Belgians and Americans are selling at less than our cost. The English, particularly, owing to the control their immense foreign investments give them in certain markets have a great advantage over us. We might take part of the trade from them, nevertheless, by slashing prices, but on any considerable scale, that would bankrupt us."

"You understand the importance of our foreign trade?" I said. "It is vital to us. We must build up balances in our favor abroad, so that we may accumulate stores of materials we do not produce, or produce in insufficient quantities. What particular item can you sell in large quantities abroad, if you could slash prices?"

"Steel rails," he answered, quickly.

"What does it cost you to produce them?"

"\$22 per ton."

"That includes all your cost charges?"

"Yes."

I called the Clerk of Statistics of Iron and Steel Industries.

"What is the cost of steel rails per ton at the South German Steel Works?" I asked him.

"\$22," he answered.

"How is it you know, without referring to your records?" I asked, somewhat surprised at his prompt reply.

"I have been studying the statistics ever since, some days ago, I was ordered to read and digest your thesis. I knew Herr Stahl was coming, and you would ask for information concerning his costs."

"Good!" I said. "If you have read my thesis, you know my next question."

"Yes. The cost to the German people, as a whole, to produce a ton of steel rails at the South German Steel Works is \$1.20."

Herr Stahl looked startled, and I told the Clerk to explain.

"I have analyzed all the items that enter into Herr Stahl's cost and find that to produce a ton of steel rails requires services equal to that of one man for 3.997643+ days, and as the cost of supporting life is 30 cents per day, the true cost of the rails to the German people, as a whole, is practically \$1.20."

"You have taken into account all items, from ore and coke to the finished product, including transportation?"

"Yes."

"That may be true," said Herr Stahl, with some impatience, "but I am not the German people as a whole. I am a manufacturer who must get \$22 for every ton of rails I produce, or go bankrupt. I cannot remain solvent and sell them for less."

"What do you charge the German people for rails?"

"\$24. I must have some profit, and before going lower I will shut down. The competition here at home is bad, too. We get so little profit now, that my plant is not kept up as it should be. I agree with the American, Carnegie, about scrapping all but the best machinery, but it takes profits to make that practicable. And of course if we are not abreast or ahead of our foreign competi-

tors in facilities for manufacture, we are at a great disadvantage, particularly in dull times."

"What further have you done?" I asked the Clerk.

"My orders were to make the arrangements your plan called for, so I have ordered all the steel manufacturers to have representatives with full authority to sign binding agreements here this afternoon, and to bring with them all their foreign trade experts. The necessary contracts are prepared ready for signature. I will explain these at the meeting. I have ordered all the railroads to publish the new tariffs on export business, effective at once. I have ordered the Cable Company to hold its wires clear for one hour from four this afternoon, so that the steel manufacturers can advise their representatives in foreign countries without delay. The Chief of Finances is now completing arrangements with the banks to provide for long time credits on foreign trade. This I will also explain at the meeting."

He was a very intelligent young man and I expressed my approval of his actions.

"It is for the good of the Fatherland, and there is no occasion for delay. I am glad of your approval," he said in acknowledgment, and left us.

"And now, Herr Schmidt, will you kindly explain what all this means?" asked Herr Stahl. "Is it war?"

"No," I answered, "it is not war—as yet. But when war comes, if we can wait a few years, the plans we are now arranging will be of great service."

"But what is the plan?"

"It is very simple and will enable us to take and keep whatever foreign trade we care for."

"But the English and the Americans and the Belgians—how about them?"

"The English are governed by stupid persons and will not realize what we are doing until it is too late. They will spend all their time thinking about your \$22 cost and imminent bankruptcy. They are patient, and will wait for that. The Belgians have not the organization abroad that we have and are also incapable of thinking nationally. As for the Americans, in foreign trade they are beginners, and intensely individual. Their government is in the hands of lawyers and bankers whose outlook on commercial affairs is hardly national, let alone international. Besides, foreign trade is not essential to their well-being or success; they have so much need at home for all they can produce."

"And now will you kindly tell me what is to be done, and why?"

"It all follows from this theory:

"The true cost of things exported to the exporting nation, as a whole, is the cost of supporting the living producer. Anything received in excess of that cost is profit to the nation. As far as sales within the nation are concerned, the price is immaterial except as between individuals therein."

"Yes," agreed Herr Stahl, "that is true. But what is the practical application?"

"As you know, you are to meet this afternoon with all your competitors. At that meeting you will all agree, and the Staff will see that you keep your agreements, to sell to foreigners, if necessary, at apparent loss, as far as your ledgers show, this loss to be kept down as low as possible and still enable you to take all the business your plants can handle. To recoup you, you will also agree with all the other manufacturers to sell to the German people at a price sufficiently higher than cost plus your loss on foreign trade to enable you to keep your plants up to the highest point of efficiency in every respect, including extensions, and the latest improvements; and to pay good wages to your workmen and reasonable dividends to your stockholders."

Herr Stahl smiled dubiously and I added: "The Staff will also see that that agreement is kept. You need have no fear."

"And are we to be the only ones to whom the theory will be applied?"

"It will apply to every line of industry in Germany that offers a profit on foreign trade. We are beginning with you because from you we can get quickest action."

From that time, Herr Schmidt further explained, the plan he had outlined was carried out with the

utmost care and foreign trade grew precisely as they wished and to the extent they desired. The result was a rapid increase in manufacture and wealth of the so-called captains of industry. It is to be noted—and this explains the growth of factory industry as compared with agricultural—that manufactured exports are much more profitable to the exporting nation than products of the soil. For instance, for a ton of rails costing the German people as a whole \$1.20, they received in return from the United States, or Argentine, or—and indeed, in particular, from Russia—approximately 30 bushels of wheat costing not less than \$15. In other words, Germany traded four days' labor for fifty.

Your committee carefully considered Herr Schmidt's statement and we have arrived at the unanimous conclusion, that while the plan therein outlined was intended to, and did, benefit one people at the expense of others, the theory can be used as a basis for equitable dealing. We therefore recommend, as the fundamental law governing international trade, the following:

All things traded in between nations shall be bought and sold at true cost—that is, the cost of supporting the life spent in producing the thing traded in.

To give this practical effect we suggest the appointment of an international board of trade, with authority to employ accountants to determine true costs in each nation, and to establish an international clearing house, with necessary banking facilities, to handle the international accounts. It follows, of course, that each government should place in the hands of one company, which should be a monopoly, with all shares owned by the nation, all international purchases and sales. As to the procedure which each nation should follow in dealing with its own nationals through the monopoly company owned by it, we express no opinion.

We further suggest to the conference the appointment of Herr Schmidt as chairman of the international board of trade. He has the necessary knowledge and experience, but, in addition, he strongly desires to devote his life to the work of making the proposed plan a success. When the idea first occurred to him, he saw it as we now see it, but perverted patriotism caused him to twist it to benefit only his own nation. He feels that he prostituted his intellect, as a physician might who concealed some great discovery that would alleviate pain, to enrich himself; and he desires to make what amends he may during the years of life left to him.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE SCHNAIDER, of Germany,
CHANG WU, of China,
TAKUMA KAWARA, of Japan,
WASHINGTON LINCOLN, of the United States,
MICHAEL MULHALLY, of Ireland,
PIERRE LAFAYETTE, of France,
JOHN BOGGINS, of Great Britain,
IVAN POTOFF, of Russia,
PIETRO BORGHESE, of Italy,
WALDEMAR SCHWIEGEL, of Austria-Hungary,
ACHMED FERISHTAN, of Turkey,
OLGA BJORENSEN, of Sweden.

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Before War and After

By Alex Mackendrick

"Why Men Fight." By the Hon. Bertrand Russell. New York, the Century Co.

TO American readers the name of Mr. Bertrand Russell may not yet have become familiar. The Century Company may be congratulated on having been made the medium through which is given to the world the most recent thoughts of England's most distinguished writer on the tragic drama that is now being played out on the continent of Europe. Second only perhaps to Mr. Arthur James Balfour in profundity of philosophic insight and breadth of scholarship, Mr. Russell is second to none in the comprehensiveness of his survey of

human life. He possesses, moreover, just what Mr. Balfour so singularly lacks, the democratic viewpoint, along with a complete detachment from the insular prejudices of class. In defiance of all the accidents of birth that might have predisposed him to the aristocratic doctrine that classes, if not kings, have a divine right to govern, Mr. Russell has espoused the faith that irresponsible rule from above ends in stagnation and corruption, and that only freedom of expression for the virile forces that reside in the common people can insure the continued vitality of a nation. His innate radicalism is nowhere shown more clearly than in his views on education, which are searching, rational, and psychologically sound. The discipline of the English public schools is, he maintains, chiefly directed towards inclining their students to an acquiescence in, and approval of, the *status quo*, with all its established institutions of Church, Landocracy, and Army and Navy. Eton and Oxford persistently teach the blind worship of "good form," to the loss of that mental open-mindedness that must underlie all true culture. Freedom in thinking is not encouraged. The healthy, inborn love of exploration which, if unrestrained, would naturally extend itself to the life of the mind, is rigorously suppressed. The adventure-seeking youth is never taught, as he might be, that "for real excitement there are no such adventures as the intellectual ones."

The main purpose, however, of "Why Men Fight," is to discover in psychology or the laws of the human mind, some explanation of the European cataclysm that will go deeper than those offered by the happenings and negotiations immediately preceding the outbreak of the war. Like a phrenologist who accounts for our past and forecasts our future actions by our cranial protuberances, Mr. Russell explains the persistent combativeness of our species by certain deeply-rooted psychological tendencies. He divides the springs of action into two categories: those of desires and impulses;—the first including those motives that are under control of the reason and which visualize certain definite ends towards which actions are carefully adjusted;—the second being those activities to which for their own sakes our nature impels us, just as children run and shout or dogs bark. And of the two, Mr. Russell argues, impulse is by far the more important. "Impulse is at the base of our activity much more than desire: direct impulse is what moves us, and the desires we think we have are a mere garment for the impulse." But those impulses which, wrongly directed, are responsible for the readiness with which men fall into fighting attitudes at the sound of a drum, are not to be conceived of as survivals of character that ought to be outgrown by reasonable beings. On the contrary, the vigor, the beauty, the effectiveness of life, for art, for scientific invention, for all that makes towards a fuller and richer life, depend upon the strength of impulses. The problem here is to produce such environmental conditions as will refine these impulses and direct them into appropriate channels; for to suppress them is impossible, and undesirable if it were possible. Mr. Russell draws a picture pitifully true to fact, of the average worker whose impulses have been crushed out by monotonous employment and a hopeless outlook, even though he may have attained to a precarious security against want. "To this victim of order and good organization the realization comes in a moment of sudden crisis, that he belongs to a nation, that his nation may take risks and enjoy the passion of doubtful combat. The long years of private caution are avenged by a wild plunge into public madness. . . . It is patriotic and noble to be reckless for the nation though it would be wicked to be reckless for oneself. . . . The old primitive passions, which civilization had denied, surge up all the stronger for repression." Does this not come pretty near to the whole truth as to "why men fight?"

In the chapter entitled "Property," the connection between the monopoly of natural resources and the strained conditions which deny a natural and healthy

expression to the impulses, is clearly indicated. "Much that appears as the power of capital is really the power of the landowner; for example, the power of railway companies and mine owners. The evil and injustice of the present system are glaring, but men's patience of preventable evils to which they are accustomed is so great that it is impossible to guess when they will put an end to this strange absurdity."

In the two final chapters we have what may be called a summing up of the position. To nations as to individuals, some larger and more impersonal purpose in life must be found than merely to go on living. A philosophy that postulates wealth as the vital element in a nation's well-being, irrespective of the uses it subserves, has been weighed in the balance and found wanting. The present condition of the world is the latest protest of outraged nature against the strangling of creative impulse that results from the existing economic structure of society and the political institutions based thereon. When the war ends, we must, under the guidance of a new spirit, seek for such an ideal of national life as will open the right channels for the expression of those instinctive creative impulses which lie at the base of our nature. This aspiration will, however, remain barren unless (in Mr. Russell's words) "we can bring it into relation with some powerful political force. The only powerful political force from which any help is to be expected in bringing about such changes as seem needed, is Labor. When the war is ended, labor discontent is sure to be prevalent throughout Europe, and to constitute a political force by means of which a great and sweeping reconstruction may be effected." Meantime, what can each one of us do but attempt to aid in the formation of that greatest of all constructive forces—public opinion? In the words of Herbert Spencer, "we must realize how infinitesimal is the importance of anything we can do, and at the same time how infinitely important it is that we should do it."

♦♦♦♦

The Old Bookman

CONFESSIONS OF LEARNED IGNORANCE

By Horace Flack

VI. THE VERACITY OF Suetonius

"A FOOL is never a great fool unless he knows Latin." So they said in the middle ages. And I know Latin. But wait. When they said, "Two doctors, one devil," they were not speaking of village practitioners of physic. They meant to include without any exception whatever, all who profess any kind of intellectual superiority as a title to dominate the rest. By that rule, that spirit has at least fifty per cent of diabolism in it, whether or not those who are possessed by it are Latinists. So as a Latinist, with that *noli me tangere*, I come to the veracity of Suetonius in the original Latin or in the usual translation, with the worst left in Latin footnotes.

As he deals with twelve Caesars, beginning with Julius, they are not always beasts, for they are often devils. Before they putrefy alive, they may be patrons or practitioners of art, music, literature, oratory, religion and patriotism. Of the habits of the family, back of Julius, we know little, but in Caesars after Augustus, the same habits reappear, when the title no longer represents the blood. Of the morals of Julius and Augustus, who overthrew the Roman republic, Suetonius says enough to make us suppose that nothing could be more bestial, until he comes to their successors, Tiberius, Caligula, Nero and Domitian. When Claudius, after spending the day in watching slaves fight for their lives with beasts, gluttonizes until he resorts to an emetic as a means of restoring his capacity for enjoyment, this does not shock Suetonius. It is a mild suggestion of what the capacity of the Latin language for defining the worst enables Suetonius to record before he

begins to suspect that he may be shocking. Vespasian and Titus are almost respectable by comparison with others of this "divine" company. Suetonius leaves out what others write of the private life of Titus before he became a Caesar, and the worst he writes of Vespasian seems to him half humorous. It was Vespasian's habit to allow himself to be bribed by the worst scoundrels among office-seekers. Then as soon as one of them had stolen himself rich, Vespasian put another in his place and confiscated his stealings. The Romans called this wetting the dry sponge and squeezing the wet. The horrible and nameless atrocities of the destruction of Jerusalem belonged merely to the routine of imperialism, and it does not detract from the veracity of Suetonius that he thinks of them as part of the highest Roman patriotism. As this introduces Josephus, we know from him when he introduces Herod, that the practice of Caesarism is in the literal sense "corruption." The description of Herod the Great as he putrefies to death is not pleasant reading. It is to be recommended only for those who—perhaps because they do not know Latin and do despise Greek—have concluded that the future of the world is to be controlled by such "supermen" as these. It is a matter for regret and shame that as the worst persists from age to age, we must know it; but as the best also persists, we have it in the picture of Vivia Perpetua refusing to spill a few drops of wine before the bust of one of these beasts, when to make the libation recognized him as a divinity and to refuse it doomed her to the amphitheatre, stripped that Caesar might criticise her symmetry before she was torn by the lions. Of the inspiration for such opposition as this to Caesarism in all its forms, Suetonius has only a vague suspicion. In his life of Vespasian he says that "a firm persuasion had long prevailed throughout all the East" that it was fated for the empire of the world "to devolve on someone who should go forth from Judea." This prediction, he says, "referred to a Roman emperor, as the event showed." We may say with Isaiah and the prophets he had not read, that it is a prophecy of "peace on earth" and of progress along a way so plain that a "wayfaring man though a fool need not err therein." But no matter how firmly and hard faith holds to hope, it is still a prophecy and Caesarism we have had always with us. As a Latinist, I know what Caesarism means in all its forms, ancient and modern, but of the high realities in hopes of final liberation from it, I am too ignorant to speak.

♦♦♦♦

Vale, H. D. J.

By Orrick Johns

YOU faced the darkness but would not cry out,
You felt the cold and held your secret fast;
We know now what your business was about
And why you kept it from us to the last.

In that first April weather, hands on knee,
You sat, a far smile sometimes on your face. . . .
So you made friends with Death, and hoodwinked,
we
Are wondering at the stillness in your place.

You saw the great line drawn before your feet,
And could not care for news of war and men,
But drank the tumbling world, and all its sweet
Was quickened, and you were a boy again.

The old things filled you with a welcome peace—
Pigeons and dogs and the awakening green
Of hedge and hillside, thence you had release
To some strange beauty we could not have seen.

The fine last flower of Faith, the wit and worth—
Go, brother, these the wealth of you we cherished;
None truer as to compass walked the earth,—
Nor seemlier in his courage ever perished.

Letters From the People

Mr. Untermeyer and Prof. Heller

April 23, 1917.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

May I lift my erratic shift-key to thank you for the space you gave in a recent issue to a review of my "Poems from Heinrich Heine," to give thanks to Professor Otto Heller for his careful criticism of that volume and to your printer for his excellent italics. May I also object to two or three inaccuracies in Professor Heller's article and may I publicly differ with him in a matter of taste which is personal rather than poetic?

To settle the minor differences first: Professor Heller undoubtedly scores a hit or two off the present vulnerable correspondent, but his anxiety to register a high score leads him sometimes to stick himself. Thus, when my critic says "by some curious inadvertence, that lengthy poem entitled 'Germany: A Winter's Tale' is styled 'his greatest prose work.'" If the Professor will refer to my preface he will see that I did not even mention the words, "A Winter's Tale;" and, if he will then refer to the works of Heine, he will see that the lengthy series "*Über Deutschland*" is both prose and great prose. In Leland's complete version (published sumptuously by Grosscup and Sterling) this series entitled (as I have called it) "Germany," takes up four splendid volumes—all of them prose.

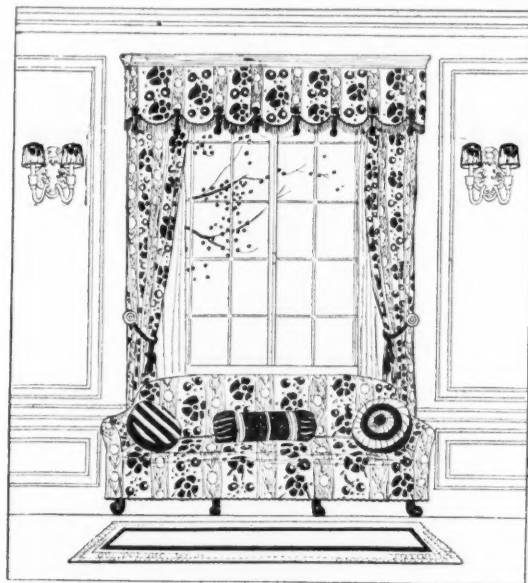
As to my failure to reproduce the glamour of such imperishable folk songs as "*Im wunderschönen Monat Mai*" with their fragile simplicity, I plead unequivocally guilty. My only excuse (and it is not so much an excuse as a plea for clemency) is that I warned the reader of this failure in my preface. I said: "I regret that in many cases the exquisite music has been broken. Many of Heine's poems, while wholly colloquial in speech and even trite in idea, are transmuted into magic by their word-music and the perfection of vowel and consonant sound." "Such properties," I said, "cannot be transplanted." I endeavored to render the meaning of such verses—and, being an inexperienced criminal, threw myself on the mercy of the court.

But these are merely quibbling particulars. My one real grievance with Professor Heller (and I am truly grateful for his praise and sympathy, for his critical care and for a seventy-five per cent appreciation) is when he writes "the lurid eroticism, so generally attributed to Heine by his large circle of enemies, is of rare occurrence in his poetry." In the first place, what the Professor calls his "lurid eroticism" is never lurid, and in the second place it is not rare. But when he goes on to say "The notorious 'Miscellany,' Heine's diary of his *niedere Minne*, is unnecessarily included in Mr. Untermeyer's book," I begin to lose what literary patience I have. Why that supercilious and superior "unnecessary?" Heine included that witty and often beautiful series in his work—and it would take a more courageous man than Professor

Heller to bowdlerize and emasculate the volume.

Such an attitude is, unfortunately, too common—and, what is even more unfortunate, it persists particularly in the colleges, among those who should stand for freshness and freedom rather than for swaddled formulas. It is these dubious doctrinaires that I had in mind when I wrote in *The New Republic*: "The vital quality that is missing from most of the interpretations of Heine is not merely verbal grace but an almost complete ignorance of the spirit behind the words. Or, instead of ignorance, let me say it is distaste. Not conscious repugnance exactly; but a desire not to see what seems to be vulgar or petty or poisonous in Heine; an effort to turn his rude laughter into refined badinage—in short, to prettify him into a pseudo-romantic, graceful and usually sentimental lyric poet." Further than that, I said, "This refusal to accept Heine as he was, with his mockery, his outspokenness, his bursts of coarseness and pain

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interrupting his most limpid and ethereal moments, is the reason why most of the versions, aside from their many technical absurdities, are, even when they are fairly readable, very dull reading. Most of the interpreters have taken up the work in their most professional manner; they have approached Heine not only as pedagogues, but as pedagogues approaching a talented, ill-behaved and generally inexplicable undergraduate. Here and there a kindly professor has blinked an eye rather than witness an undignified prank; another has closed his ears to episodes too bitter or racy for the class-room, but the attitude has been almost always that of superior condemnation. Either they condemned Heine's own utterances with

silence, or negated them with corrective notes and explanatory apologies. Unable, by their soft and coddled traditions, to face the storm of Heine's moods—his wild mixture of naivete and disillusion, or tenderness and brutality—they slurred over and devitalized whatever was too rude or untutored for their academic taste."

It was not in a spirit of impertinence that I concluded, "The lofty interpreter must never forget how small his own virtues are next to Heine's most flagrant literary vices." And it is not as an angry retort that I quote the foregoing sentences. It is a defense, not so much of my translations as it is a wish that Heine be considered as one must consider a great artist—not merely as an

artist, but as a human being. "Who touches this book," said Whitman, "touches a man." So with the volume of Heine. It is a complete man—a sick, beauty-loving, cant-hating, disillusioned, incurably romantic, sane and sensual person that Professor Heller ought to find there.

LOUIS UNTERMEYER.



Philosophic View of the World War

Ida Grove, Iowa, April 19, 1917.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

Much has been written in explanation of the causes of the present world conflict and still more in an effort to fix the blame for the great catastrophe. Unfortunately, nearly all that has been published is tinged with personal or national prejudice. Calm, philosophic thought has had little place in all that has thus far been said. Of explanations that do not explain and of opinions that contradict and bewilder there is seemingly no end. In this multiplicity of divergent ideas there is no satisfactory solution of the questions that perplex us. Where, then, is such a solution to be found. Nowhere else but in the law of necessity, cold, cruel and comfortless as it may appear.

But, in seeking the remote causes of the great war through the operation of this law, it is necessary to go back to the very sources of history and review the entire course of events since mankind first began to form itself into organized society and group itself into nations. This would be a task so gigantic that no man could hope to accomplish it in a lifetime of the most laborious and persistent effort, but the philosophy of history so set forth would show that all past events in the history of the nations now at war, and the antecedents of those nations, have tended inevitably to produce the cataclysm that has shaken civilization to its very foundations.

World processes are evolutionary. Effect follows cause as unerringly in the social and political world as in the purely material world of substance and force. Conditions are now just what they must be because they are the inescapable result of the social and political forces operative in the past. But if the present cannot be otherwise than it is, who is to blame for the war? Manifestly, no one. "But this," you say, "absolves Germany." Aye, and all the rest; for they could not do otherwise, if what they have done is the result of inexorable law. Then what is wrong with the world? Nothing, except that it is still in the making. The evolutionary process is ever onward and upward, despite what sometimes appears to us to be a retrogressive or downward course. Unless we view the history of the world in the light of the evolutionary philosophy, which teaches that the fittest governments as well as the fittest animal organisms survive while the unfit perish, there is no scientifically grounded hope that out of all this apparent evil good will finally come. A hundred, five hundred, a thousand years from now it will be seen that the present disaster, with all its attendant horrors and sufferings, has conduced immeasurably to the world's advancement.

It is, then, true philosophy to forego

all attempts to fix the blame for that which could not be avoided. Our country, like all the rest, enters the conflict because she must; but, keeping in mind that the fittest survive, never doubt for a moment the outcome. The dice were loaded ages and ages ago, and the result of the throw is now as certainly determined as if it were already recorded in the annals of time.

A. J. SCHAEFFER.



Approval from an Expert

1123 Hamilton Avenue,
St. Louis, April 19, 1917.

Editor of Reedy's Mirror:

Now and then one finds a short story worth the reading. One such was printed in the MIRROR of April 13. It is "The Woman Sinister," by Horatio Winslow.

The world has many such women as *Madame Bravain*, the middle-aged French widow who "mothered" *George Tappert* out of babyism into manliness. The police-reporter cynic in the story, *Bill Harris*, also is a true-to-life character. Realism such as Mr. Winslow records in this little tale is all too scarce in our present-day short stories.

Come again, Horatio! You'll have one prejudiced reader in your favor.

ROBERTUS LOVE.



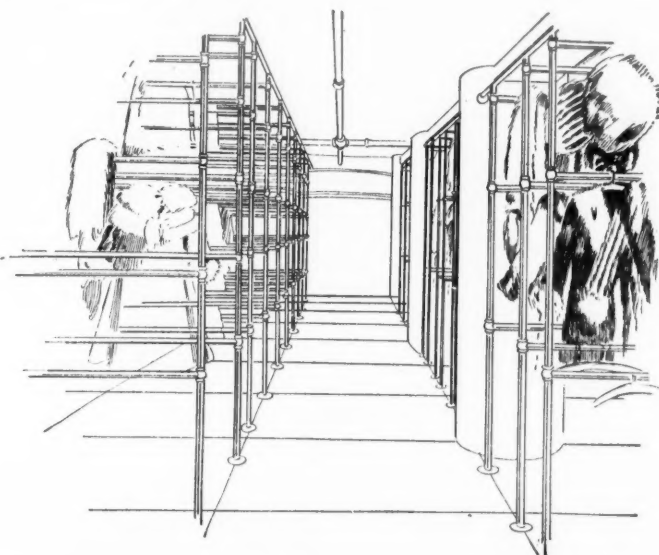
Two Fallen Idols

By Thomas Stewart McNicoll

Herbert Spencer

Perhaps no other philosopher ever received so much praise in his lifetime as Herbert Spencer. At one period, back in the late seventies and early eighties, he was almost universally acknowledged as the one great philosopher of evolution. His ardent admirers went so far as to predict that the age would be known in history as the Spencer age, because of his monumental synthetic system. This praise was not confined to mere enthusiasts. Such an eminent scientist as Richard A. Procter called Spencer "the Bacon of his day, whom I reverence as the teacher of the soundest philosophy the world has yet known." Spencer's followers and expounders were known in every land, and to quote that "Herbert Spencer says," was to many like "thus sayeth the Scripture." The apostle of evolution before Darwin, the founder in English of the great branch of science known as sociology, the most original writer on psychology in the language, the first and bitterest opponent of the Prussian military idea! Truly, Spencer was as a thinker exalted, and placed upon a pedestal and, judging from the "Autobiography" and "Facts and Comment," his last books, Spencer shared this opinion himself, for they show the extraordinary care he took to record and preserve the slightest trifle about himself, believing that posterity would care.

Fourteen years have passed since Spencer died, fourteen years of wonderful discovery and development, shaking the very foundations of all knowledge and science. How have Spencer and his mighty system come through the ordeal? The best answer is found in "Herbert Spencer," by Hugh Elliot, a new book in Henry Holt's "Makers of the Nine-



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teenth Century" series. The author was once a Spencer enthusiast and still has a great admiration for the master, but is forced to acknowledge that the years are sadly undermining the great system. He softens the admission by claiming that much of what Spencer taught is now

absorbed into the common thought of the day.

Apart from his writings, there is not much of interest to record in Spencer's life. His works are the best part of him. Although his friends were among the great of his day, he must have been



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cold and unsocial, for there is very little in the way of anecdote, except his ear-stoppers to protect himself from bores, his sleeping with a pillow under the middle of his back and his painting over the pattern of a carpet that displeased him. Mr. Elliot's version of the "George

Eliot" love (?) story adds nothing new, and is not very complimentary to Spencer.

Concerning the writings, Mr. Elliot gives a chapter to each important book, showing its genesis and growth, and criticising its thought in the light of

later research. Perhaps the worst criticism is his admission that the charge, "Scratch Spencer and you find ignorance," is well founded. The general belief was that no other system was founded upon such a cyclopedic knowledge, such an amazing collection of facts. Instead of being an inductive or synthetic system, as its author really believed, Mr. Elliot says it was wholly deductive. Spencer arrived at a few basic ideas, then found facts to fit them, leaving untouched other facts that did not suit him. Before Darwin brought out "natural selection" as the main underlying cause for evolution, Spencer was willing to base his whole case on the theory of the inheritance of acquired characters, an utterly discredited theory now. The belief in this unproven theory mars the reasoning in many parts of the system, and many of his famous deductions were made upon slender evidence. This method of Spencer's rather than any serious flaws in his logic or principles, is the main reason why he failed to hold his high place. Mr. Elliot contends that, barring the evidence of Spencer's attachment to the theory of the inheritance of acquired characters, he has in the "Psychology" produced an epoch-making book, and one not much affected yet by the later discoveries.

Spencer also produced a lasting effect in his famous treatise on education. Its effort to call people back to more natural methods was the greatest since "Emile." His war on the classics and his advocacy of the teaching of science have borne good results.

Single taxers will remember the severe flaying Henry George administered to Spencer in his "Perplexed Philosopher" for his apostasy on the ethics of land ownership. Mr. Elliot makes no reference, of course, to Mr. George's attack, but he does admit Spencer's recantation on land nationalism, dropping his famous ninth chapter. This he defends for the reason of the impossibility of either confiscating the land or of rendering proper compensation—as if justice could be impossible. These difficulties, he thought, made private ownership more desirable. The fact is that Spencer never was able to refute his own argument in the ninth chapter. He simply dropped it.

It is pathetic to think that about all that will endure of Spencer and his great monument is the personal fact, as Mr. Elliot writes, that "without money, without special education, without health, Herbert Spencer produced eighteen large volumes of philosophy and science of many diverse kinds," and that these books "filled the attention of all thinking people for half a century." But Mr. Elliot will probably revise his estimate of the present status of Spencer's authority after reading Havelock Ellis' review of the book in a recent issue of the *London Nation*.

✱

Porfirio Diaz

There was a time, and that not so long ago, when the name of Porfirio Diaz was high on the roll of fame. Leading men in many lands ranked him with Bismarck and Cecil Rhodes as a maker of a nation. Mexico was a land cursed with internal disorder and stained with endless bloodshed. A land of mixed breeds, it was too poor and shift-

less to develop its own marvelous resources, and would not let more vigorous races come in with capital and energy. Its wealth and disorder were constant temptations to the land-hungry peoples and nations of Europe, and the piteous tragedy of Maximilian and Carlotta was enacted. Into this tortured land, out of its mixed bloods, arose, at last, a leader of men, a man who seemed destined to be the redeemer of his nation. The disorder and bloodshed dwindled to a minimum, outside capital came flowing in, and highways, railroads, bridges, mines and factories sprang up like magic. Mexico, for the first time, paid her debts and gained the respect of other nations. At first, the outside world thought this was all too good to last, but as year after year and decade after decade passed, and the same stern, resolute man held the helm, it was believed that this vastly improved condition had come to stay. It is to the credit of the farsightedness of that other empire maker, Cecil Rhodes, that he predicted that when Diaz was gone Mexico would relapse to her former condition. That this has happened, the whole world knows, but the disintegration commenced before Diaz fled. The strong man had lost his strength and his cunning. The idol, Diaz, had crumbled, but that his life, with its adventures and achievements, makes a very interesting story, is proved in "Porfirio Diaz," by David Hannay, also presently published in the "Makers of the Nineteenth Century" series. Mr. Hannay proves to be exceedingly well qualified for his task. He not only traces the doings of his subject, but explains them. He knows the Spanish-American character, and the difficulties that would confront any reformer who sought to impress upon it the customs and the progress of more energetic peoples. Knowing this, he makes the rise and reign of Diaz even more wonderful than it seemed to outsiders. In his hands, Diaz, a brave soldier, a wire-pulling politician, grows into a statesman and ruler who knew his people thoroughly, their weaknesses and faults, and strove with a patient, resolute yet stern purpose, to lift them to better ways.

Mr. Hannay admits the familiar charge of Diaz's cruelty towards his enemies, and the harsh policy towards the Yaquis. The first was necessary in order to maintain his supremacy, and the second, to allow the development of the rich mines which the Indians owned and refused to open for prospectors, capitalists and miners. Another bitter charge against Diaz, that he robbed the peons of their title to a share of the communal lands, Mr. Hannay thinks he refutes completely. He denies that they, or any considerable number of them, ever possessed this title, consequently, Diaz nor no one else took it from them. He says, "All the evidence goes to show that they (the peons) were serfs under Spanish rule by law, and have continued to be so through their own inability to rise to a better state." Mr. Hannay ignores the consideration that the peons had a title before the Spaniards came.

To hold and rule such a land and such a people, required more genius and skill than Bismarck or Cecil Rhodes needed to create their epoch-making empires. That their work has outlasted

Diaz's is due to the fact that they carved in better material, and had better tools. Though the idol Diaz has fallen and chaos seems to have come upon Mexico again, there are signs that better days will dawn and with those days Porfirio Diaz will come into his own, for if Mexico is ever to rise, it will be upon the foundation he laid. This is being proved in the region around Tampico and the great oil fields, where law and order reign and prosperity and peace are found.

Some Books

By Alpheus Stewart

Mrs. Eleanor H. Porter in her latest novel, "The Road to Understanding," depicts the disaster that comes from a lack of preparation for marriage and for life. For both the man and the woman in her fictional marriage, the parallels in real life are only too common. Most matrimonial crafts go on the rocks for the very good reason that neither of the navigators has ever had the least preparation for the voyage so rashly undertaken. In this instance, the young man is the spoiled son of a wealthy father. He is dependent and selfish. When he marries against his father's wishes, he is disowned and thrown upon his own resources, which are naturally meager enough. Instead of making the best of the situation, as he very likely would have done had he been trained in the school of adversity, he becomes unhappy and discontented. The young wife has been a village belle, the daughter of a New England merchant. When her parents die she is left penniless. Like so many thousands of girls in a similar class, she had never been taught to make herself useful in any way. She cannot cook and she knows nothing about making a home, and like thousands of her sisters in real life, she is not in the least ashamed to admit this. In truth, she is typical, for the tendency of the larger number of the girls of the present day is to take a sort of pride in confessing that their real object in life is to be helpless parasites. While she does not think she is doing so, she really tells the boy before marriage that she is wholly unfitted for wifehood, but they are married anyhow and then comes disillusionment. As a mitigation of the attempt to live together without knowing how, the young man's father suggests that they give each other a temporary vacation. The wife is given a check for ten thousand dollars, which she accepts as evidence that the young husband wishes to get rid of her. This is not his wish, but the wife disappears and the vacation lengthens to twenty years, at the end of which the couple are reunited through their daughter. The years of separation have been years of discipline and preparation by both for the duties of married life and the inference is that they lived happily afterward; but one will regret that the youth of both was wasted because their training for life was not begun early enough. The book illustrates a problem that is common enough to American life and puts it in the guise of a story uncommonly well told. There are illustrations in color by Mrs. Mary G. Blumenschein. (Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston and New York.)

A characteristically English story in its unexciting and polite, tea-table kind of conversation, is Theodore Watts-Dunton's "Vesprie Towers," published by the John Lane Company. Much of it is given to contrasting the seclusion and desirability of English country life to the disadvantage of any other. And it may or may not have a meaning that a great many of the English novels being published in this time of war are given to depicting scenes of sylvan quietude.

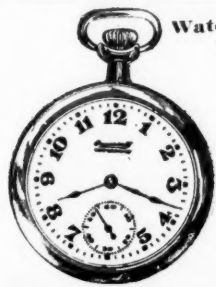
"Vesprie Towers" is a very simple little story, dealing mostly with the misfortunes and the subsequent fortune of a prideful young lady who lost her age-old inheritance in the "Towers" through the extravagance of her forbears. Her descent to life in the London slums and her contact with many of the realities of existence wipe out some of her caste prejudice, but not all, for English readers would not welcome that. It is a very proper story in all respects, such as Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth could have written, although the art is a little better than that which the lady referred to spread through so many scores of stories. Or was it hundreds?

Ernesta Drinker Bullitt calls her book, published in January of this year, "An Uncensored Diary from the Central Empires." One suspects that the American impudence, youth and charm of Mrs. Bullitt had much to do with getting her "copy" out of Germany. Nevertheless, the book passed through the hands of the censor, for she says near the end: "Yesterday I told Doctor Rodiger that if he cut a word out of it, I would come back and finish him with an axe." At the same time she sent a box of hair tonic to be censored—a style of American humor which may have won in this instance, but which she herself says is wholly lost upon the average German and is one of the characteristics of former Ambassador Gerard which always puzzled the Teutons. While the book is very frank in its report of conversations with the leading men of Germany, there

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is nothing in its publication calculated to interrupt the grand march of German kultur. Although it might have been entirely innocuous, to get it through the censor without change or deletion must be considered as evidence of the young woman's power over German officialdom.



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Mrs. Bullitt spent the summer of 1916 in Germany, Austria, Hungary and Belgium, with her husband, who was then a special correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger. Socially or otherwise, she met nearly every prominent man in the central empires, and she seems to have induced them to talk with a frankness they have accorded few other outlanders since the war began. She especially set herself to examine the "woman question" in Germany, and tells us much about the excellent work that the women's organizations are doing. As to The Women (with capitals) she says: "They attain a terrifying pitch of intelligence but they are most unbeautiful. Their definition of clothes is, I presume, a modest covering for the body, sufficient to protect it from the cold. Some of them dress in a sort of a new art way, but few of them seem to imagine that dressing well would detract nothing from their intellectuality of appearance—on which they concentrate so heavily—and that it might add several cubits to their charm."

She does not think that the German people will try to overthrow the Hohenzollerns. Indeed, she says that the emperor is very popular and has nothing like the power attributed to him. More than that, he is considered by his people not in the least warlike. They visualize him as a man to whom war is far from desirable, and in this conception of him Mrs. Bullitt seems to acquiesce. Of which it may be said that the world outside of Germany then has the most distorted and false conception as to this man. The same statement has been made by others, but it is difficult to substantiate in view of the fact now known to all the world that the Kaiser began to prepare for his grand assault on civilization on the day he came to the throne and that he has been working to that object ever since. As to his autocracy, that is sufficiently shown in the constitution Bismarck made for him.

What we call militarism, the writer suggests may be nothing more than the capacity of the German people for regulation. Everything in Germany goes by rule. The average German expects to be told and when he is told he likes to obey. It is his nature to revere a master. The sinking of the Lusitania is stoutly defended by Germans in authority. Indeed, she thinks that the thing that horrified most Germans in connection with that great atrocity was the presumption of President Wilson in daring to question the act of a German commander.

The book is written in a light and breezy style and contains much of wit and gentle satire. (Doubleday, Page & Co.)

"The Son of Tarzan" is the title of the one that reaches this reviewer, but the shameless announcement is made on the cover that there has been a whole string of Tarzan stories. The "son's" father had at least two books devoted to him, with such striking titles as "Tarzan of the Apes," and "The Return of Tarzan." It is to be hoped the "Son" will leave no progeny. On the cover of the "Son" is shown a picture of a handsome but nude young man bound to a piece of timber that looks like a telegraph pole, the whole being carried

on the trunk of a mighty elephant. There is an adventure almost as sensational in nearly every page. It is evidently a work of pure imagination, for one feels that the author, Edgar Rice Burroughs, never saw anything closer resembling a jungle than a Chicago park. McClurg & Co., Chicago, are the publishers.

Remarkably well done is the work of Gertrude S. Mathews in the book she has chosen to call "Treasure," for she succeeds in setting before our vision the realities of a land and adventures in which she could have no part, but of which she says she was told by a world-wandering gold seeker, who had "no love for the pen." Such effect of experience and verity does the book give that one suspects that the gold-seeker, who is posed as the teller of the tale, actually wrote the book and that Gertrude S. Mathews is but the editor. "Treasure" is not a work of fiction but a most charming record of an adventurer's search for gold in and a description of a land little known to the outside world, which is to say, Surinam, or Dutch Guiana. A reference to the map will show that Surinam sits between French Guiana on the east and British Guiana on the west, on the northeast shoulder of South America, and the prospector reveals it to us as a land that is fresh and abounding in many interesting things. This prospector is described to us as a *genus homo primitivus aestheticus*, with an especial passion for orchids and hence while there is much space devoted to his search for gold in a land where all the geological formations are likely to be the reverse of those elsewhere on earth, at the same time he does not neglect to tell us much about the flora and fauna of this tropical region. Nor is the ethnology of the country neglected. He brings before us the Bush nigger, the half-wild descendants of the slaves who ages ago ran away from their masters and sought refuge in the interior bush. He also introduces us to the strange Indian tribes of that country, who to the eye of the white man are almost invisible. They are not savage. They are shy rather than wild. They are never seen upon the savannahs; they live in villages of as much as five hundred souls and yet it is almost an impossibility for any white man to locate one of those villages among the trees. No trail leads either to or from them. The prospector finally makes friends with one of the Indians, visits his village and becomes very friendly with them all. These Indians, in their passion for cleanliness in person and about their dwellings, exhibit a trait seldom found among primitives. The search for treasure, after numerous failures, is finally moderately successful, although the search in question was more or less capitalistic, as the prospector hired many Bush niggers to do the washing for him. There are many illustrations taken from photographs of various parts of the country. The book is delightfully fresh and interesting because it deals with a subject that, as far as this reviewer knows, is entirely new. (Henry Holt & Co., New York.)

"Human Drift" is the title of the most recent book of the late Jack London,

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and probably partly represents a posthumous clean-up of his literary estate. The book takes its title from the first article, which is an essay on the drift of human populations. That there are a number of observations on the theory that civilized men have become too intelligent longer to prosecute the "drift" in search of food by great and murderous wars, shows that this essay was written before the Kaiser assaulted civilization. The other articles are relations of London's actual experiences in different parts of the world, especially as a sailor, together with two little plays which close the volume. It isn't London's best work; but it has life abundant and it has a deal of Jack—which is all and always "to the good." The Macmillan Company is the publisher.

The New Dorris


Although St. Louis is not widely known as an automobile manufacturing center, it was a St. Louis firm which twelve years ago introduced three fundamental principles which are now recognized and adopted by the majority of manufacturers of high-grade cars. These are the unit power plant, valve-in-head motor and the platform spring suspension. All were incorporated in the first car ever built by the Dorris company and this car may be seen at any time in their show rooms at Sarah and Laclede. With initiative the Dorris company combined conservatism. Their output has been limited. Recently the company was reorganized on a million dollar basis and an aggressive campaign to



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make the car nationally famous was decided upon. Heretofore their principal field has been in the west and the south-west, territory that is most difficult from

an automobile standpoint, since the car must climb the rough roads of high mountains and plow through the sands of the desert. But in just such territory as this, from Denver to Reno and San Francisco, there are many Dorris cars that have run 200,000 miles and are still performing ably. Such a record proves indisputably the efficiency of the Dorris mechanical construction and the new models incorporate every detail of the old. The appointments of the new model Dorris are greatly improved, making it a car that ranks at the very top with pleasure cars.—Adv.

♦♦♦

The Debutante Dance

The merry din.
The crowded lift.
The stumbling in.
The man that's "piñed."
The room above.
The great-coat check.
The single glove.
The choking neck.
The chaperon line.
The mumbled name.
The wish for wine.
The feeling lame.
The ball-room floor.
The 'cello's moan.
The "debs" galore.
The muffled groan.
The old "glad rags."
The tightened tie.
The line of stags.
The stifled sigh.
The gaze about.
The friend you know.
The slipping out.
The bar below.
The "sherry flip."
The pousse-café.
The absinthe drip.
The feeling gay.
The quick return.
The joyful grin.
The cheeks that burn.
The "cutting in."
The rapid pace.
The "foxy trot."
The crimson face.
The getting hot.
The dreamy waltz.
The wilted shirt.
The many halts.
The torn skirt.
The baggy "trou."
The dizzy whirl.
The dripping brow.
The same old girl.
The mute appeal.
The friend who goes.
The weary reel.
The tired toes.
The wish to roam.
The subtle ruse.
The 'phoning home.
The fake excuse.
The exit fast.
The hat and coat.
The danger past.
The scribbled note.
The dash outside.
The taxi red.
The soothing ride.
The home and bed.

—From New York Life.

♦♦♦

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At the Theaters

Robert T. Haines in a one-act whimsicality by Oliver White, "Enter—a Stranger," will lead the bill at the Columbia next week. Mr. Haines has starred in "The Coward" and "The Mills of the Gods," and he has been leading man with Grace George, Blanche Bates and Frances Starr. Another comedy sketch will be "A Hungarian Rhapsody" by the Avon comedy four. Other numbers will be Dorothy Toye, the girl with two singing voices; Catherine Dahl and Charles Gillen in a singing and musical novelty; Foster Ball and Kernan Cripps in "Since the days of '61;" the four Danubes, casting marvels; Seabury and Price, and the Orpheum Travel Weekly.

♦

Jimmie Hodges and Jean Tynes will bring "Pretty Baby" to the American next week. The show is speedy, sophisticated, a riot of color and a whirlwind of song. There are to be six handsomely staged scenes, shifting from Hawaii to the New York roof garden; the twenty song numbers include "Whose Pretty Baby are You Now?" and many other popular hits of the season.

♦


The bill at the Grand Opera House for the coming week is to be headed by a Winter Garden revue, with Gladys Lanphere, Bob Murphy and Anna Mae Bell in the lead. Other good numbers include a comedy sketch, "Fun in a Schoolroom;" Belle Barchus and company in "An Inside Job," a comedy playlet; Mitchell and Mitch, the southern banjo boys; Howard and Sadler, harmony girls; Thompson's terriers; Harry Latoy, the talkative juggler; and new animated pictures.

♦

The St. Louis drama league have arranged for two performances by the Chicago Puppet Company, which consists of ten people manipulating puppets, to-morrow (April 28) afternoon and evening in the auditorium of the Wednesday club. In the afternoon the "Adventures of Aliee in Wonderland" will be given and in the evening "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Puppet shows is a form of theatricals that is quite popular in Europe and the Chicago company is one of the very few successful ones in America. An additional performance of "Red Riding-Hood" and "Little Frog Prince" will be given at the Community school.

♦

Next Sunday night will mark the close of the Players' season and their final performance in their present home, although they will reopen in the fall in the vicinity of Grand and Olive. A Cohan production seen for the first time in St. Louis, a tragedy which evolves into a hilarious comedy, is the happy vehicle chosen for their farewell. The Players have afforded the St. Louis public much amusement and entertainment during the past two years and it is to be regretted that their present season has been cut so short by the transfer of their theater.



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Marts and Money


It was a poor week on the Wall street exchange. Business contracted materially, and quotations fell in all representative quarters. Losses ranged from two to nine points. Manipulative advances in a few specialties aroused but languid interest. Their origin and purposes were quickly understood. In the judgment of the ordinary trader, stocks like Ohio Gas and Wilson Packing do not reflect the state of affairs in the general market. They are cliqued goods. Persistent selling could again be noticed in various investment issues, in New York Central, Northern Pacific, Lehigh Valley, and Union Pacific especially. New Haven & Hartford's quotation broke from 45 to 38 $\frac{3}{4}$ on the news that the company intended to issue 900,000 shares of the preferred stock in order to straighten out its badly tangled finances and to provide sufficient cash for new equipment and improvements. The current quotation is 41. This compares with 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ on February 16, and with 77 $\frac{3}{8}$ on January 10, 1916. The passing of the dividend on the common stock of the Sloss Sheffield Steel & Iron Co. incited considerable misgivings in timid circles, where it was construed as an indication of a coming unfavorable change in the steel industry. Authoritative people pooh-pooed its significance, however. They pointed out that dividend payments should not have been resumed last January, the company being confronted with large constructive requirements and inadequate surplus funds.

The quoted value of International Mercantile Marine preferred declined from 88 to 77 on the announcement that the London government had decided to commandeer 80 per cent of the company's tonnage at "blue book" rates, at rates, that is to say, which should result in a substantial shrinkage in earnings. On September 11 last, the stock was rated at 125 $\frac{5}{8}$. Since that time the company has been taken out of the hands of a receiver. Great paper profits have gone glimmering in Mercantile Marine preferred and common shares; about two months ago, the price of the preferred was down to 62 $\frac{3}{8}$. The declaration of a 3 per cent dividend has not fortified the shares' market position to any extent; there are cynics who do not hesitate to declare that payments were initiated in order to facilitate liquidation at decent price levels for inside account. This view of the matter may be correct; yet it seems to me that chances for inside selling were much better last fall. It does look peculiar, if not downright suspicious, that the receiver should have been discharged just about a month after both preferred and common shares had sold at the highest prices on record. We are suavely assured that the 6 per cent preferred dividend is amply earned, and will be paid at regular intervals from now on, even after the restoration of peace and good will among the peoples of the earth. Let's hope that this sanguine forecast may be fulfilled. Thus far, the company has proved a sore disappointment to all who invested funds in its certificates in 1902. More than 80 per cent in dividends remains in arrears on the preferred stock. That the break in Mercantile Marine quotations should

have exerted unsettling influences on those for Atlantic, Gulf & West Indies, Pacific Mail, and United Fruit stocks can easily be understood. The commandeering policy of Downing street was generally taken to foreshadow a similar course of procedure in Washington. Atlantic, Gulf & West Indies common is quoted at 97, with the dividend rate 8 per cent per annum. On December 8 last, Wall street was egregiously "bulling" the stock at 147 $\frac{3}{4}$. In the good old ante-bellum days it involved no trouble at all to get large amounts at less than \$5 a share. Five per cent was declared on February 1, 1917—it was the first dividend. While the company is wonderfully prosperous at present, it will hardly do to consider its preferred and common certificates choice investments for a long hold. Their intrinsic merits are not yet permanently established. They are tempting speculations for the present—that's all.

The quotation for United States Steel common receded from 113 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 109 $\frac{5}{8}$, but recovered to 111 $\frac{1}{2}$ subsequently. The resiliency of this stock can be attributed, in part, to the optimistic rumors in reference to the corporation's report for the first three months of 1917. Estimates of net results now range from 110,000,000 to \$120,000,000. Intelligent note is taken, also, of the continuance of extraordinarily gainful conditions in the iron and steel trade. We are told that the drift in quotations for finished material remains upward, and that domestic purchasers are growing uneasy over reports of rapidly increasing demand from foreign countries. Respecting orders lately placed by the Federal government, Chairman E. H. Gary told inquisitive stockholders that the quantity called for at sharply lowered prices forms only one-twentieth of the total production. The old man seemed quite cheerful over the outlook, and intimated, incidentally, that the corporation could easily get still higher prices on regular contracts if it thought fit to demand them. He becomingly prided himself, also, upon the liberal treatment given the 300,000 employees. Of particular interest was his statement that the corporation's steel-producing capacity is equal to that of all the German manufacturers combined, and twice as large as that of Great Britain. Wall street is no longer anticipative of a further increase in the quarterly rate of payment on the common stock. It now has the idea that the finance committee will resolve to redeem \$185,000,000 of second mortgage 5 per cent bonds with surplus money in the corporation's treasury. Such a step on the part of the committee would be highly commendable, and expressly designed to put the common stock into the list of desirable investment paper.

Some of the "bull" oracles lean to the belief that the flotation of government loans will speedily be followed by another fine upward campaign on the stock exchange. They hint at the probability that the enormous borrowing must bring inflation; this, in the face of heavy declines in the quotations of all securities in British and French markets since the beginning of the war. It is a nice financial problem Wall street



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is wrestling with, all the more so since we have already had two years of rampageous "bull" markets and agricultural promises are not at all rosy. The rates for money are growing firmer, both for time and call contracts, but there are no signs of a serious pinch in the near future. The weekly statement of the New York banks and trust companies revealed excess reserves of \$120,899,000. This contrasts with \$128,819,000 on April 14. In the first month of this year the record stood at \$202,472,000. No changes of striking interest can be detected in the latest quotations for foreign bills of exchange. Italian drafts show further slight improvement, while Russian drafts denote slight declines.

The bond market continues to sag; numerous prominent issues depreciated one or two points further in the past week. Additional declines would not be surprising. Considerable liquidation is noted in United States Government 3s and 4s, the prices for which are almost two points under the levels of a week ago. Developments such as these should not startle trained observers. They are the natural outgrowth of preparations

for impending loans, and reflective, at the same time, of the process of price readjustment in all the financial markets of the world. The greater the supplies of securities, the lower the quoted values, if not at once, then eventually. After the downward readjustment has been completed, an upward tendency must inevitably reassert itself.

On the Chicago Board of Trade, conditions continue more or less disordered or chaotic. Fluctuations in wheat options vary from 8 to 15 cents per day. Prices for wheat and corn are at unprecedented heights. Crop reports are disquieting, to say the least. They urgently call for a thoroughly organized system of distribution and price regulation. The speculative folks are afraid that their business may be altogether forbidden at an early date. Unique events are likely to be witnessed soon also on the cotton exchanges. The antique saw that "there is nothing new under the sun" is given some mighty hard jolts these days.

Finance in St. Louis

Broadly speaking, the past week's local market was a pretty tame affair. There

was a pronounced propensity to go slow and easy, in view of the impendency of magnitudinous government loans and the sagging tendencies in Wall street. Necessarily, the atmosphere was unusually parlous, both on the stock exchange and in private offices. It could not be said, however, that investors and speculators harbored real feelings of uneasiness. The smart advance in the quoted value of Wagner Electric Manufacturing plainly indicated that even in existing peculiar circumstances tempting opportunities to reap financial advantages are promptly taken advantage of, and that confidence, one of the leading impediments in financial markets, yet is widely prevalent on and around Fourth street. The stock mentioned scored an appreciation of approximately 25. Four hundred and sixty shares were transferred at prices ranging from 160 to 188. The yearly dividend rate is 8 per cent; the outstanding amount, \$2,000,000. Two hundred and ten National Candy common brought 23.50 to 24.50; the drift was downward. Fifteen Union Sand & Material were taken at 82.75 to 83; \$3,000 St. Louis Brewing Association 6s, at 70.50, and one hundred and twenty-five shares of International Shoe common, at 99.75.

Business in bank certificates was quite good, with prices steady to firm in virtually all the principal instances. Mercantile Trust and Mississippi Valley Trust were especially active; the former sold at 357.50 to 358. Eighty shares changed ownership. Mississippi Valley Trust—sixty shares in all—brought 290. This figure has, with slight variations, been effective for some time. That for Mercantile Trust is only two points below its recent top notch. Of Mechanics-American National, fifty shares were sold at 250; the dividend rate is 12 per cent. Eighty-two St. Louis Union Trust were taken at 353 to 353.50.

United Railways issues drew little attention; the quotations for them were "soft" and fractionally lower. The 4s brought 60.50 to 61; the total turnover was \$4,000. Thirty shares of the preferred were disposed of at 19.75, and ninety shares at 20. Nothing was done in St. Louis & Suburban securities, the prices for which are unchanged.

St. Louis bankers are diligently preparing for the forthcoming unprecedented government loans. They expect them to prove a splendid success. In their efforts to stimulate interest in the bonds as much as possible, they declare themselves ready to advance loans for subscription purposes on very easy terms. A similar patriotic attitude is displayed in all other large cities.

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Wagner Electric	190.00	191.00

Answers to Inquiries

G. W. R., Clinton, Mo.—Utah Copper stock has unquestionable investment merits. It is one of the best issues of its class. This notwithstanding, it still is a highly speculative proposition. Dividend disbursements in 1916 totalled \$12; the last quarterly payment—regular and extra—was \$3.50. The company earned \$39,148,943, equal to \$24.09 on each share of stock outstanding, in 1916. The quotations for the red metal have receded rather sharply in the last few weeks. In the face of this, it behooves holders and would-be buyers of copper stocks to consider the probability of dividend reductions in numerous cases before the end of this year. The Utah could not afford to pay \$12 or \$14 per annum in the event of a further decline of 5 or 6 cents in the value of electrolytic. Eight or nine dollars would probably be the utmost.

CAPITALIST, St. Louis.—The common stock of the American Beet Sugar Co. was recently placed on a regular 8 per cent basis. Holders received 4½ per cent in 1916; nothing in the 1913-15 period, both inclusive. The existing rate is fully earned, and will no doubt be maintained throughout 1917. The farther future will depend upon this year's results in the beet fields, war developments in Europe, and the inevitable official regulation of prices by the Washington authorities. The current price of the common stock—92—compares with 108½ last November. The latter represents absolute maximum. Regarded in the light of prevailing circumstances, you should be able to purchase the stock at still lower prices by and by. There may be some sort of a "bulge," though, in the meanwhile.

DOUBTFUL, Monticello, Ia.—Would not advise additional purchases of Sloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron common, despite the severe break in the quoted value. A resumption of payments in the next twelve months is most unlikely. The company is badly in need of all its surplus earnings. In fact, nothing whatever should have been disbursed on the common. The new interests in control are known to be decidedly conservative. They showed their attitude by promptly suspending payments on their common stock.

INQUIRER, Austin, Tex.—International Mercantile Marine preferred, now quoted at 77½, should be entitled to a smart recovery. If you are agreeably fixed, financially, you might commence purchasing on a carefully arranged downward scale, say at 77, 74, 71, and so on. But keep your commitments generously protected. These are squally times, and nothing can be taken for granted on the optimistic side.

L. W. McM., New Albany, Ind.—The 7 per cent dividend on Louisville & Nashville is not in danger of a cut. It is probable that earnings will indicate another nice turn for the better in the next few months. Moreover, there will undoubtedly be a satisfactory advance in freight rates. The Commerce Commission knows that something has got to be done if our vast transportation service is to be kept in efficient condition. In case of a decline to 126 in the price of Louisville, add to your holdings.

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Mrs. Rohland's May Music Festival

Mrs. Chas. B. Rohland, director of the Dominant Ninth Choral Society of Alton, announces a music festival for Wednesday evening, May 2, Thursday afternoon, May 3, and Thursday evening, May 3. The instrumental part of the programme will be furnished by the Minneapolis Symphony orchestra, Mr. Oberhoefer, director; and a quartette of eminent singers will assist in the production of Gounod's "Mors et Vita," and "Redemption." Below is the programme in full. Incidentally, this event is the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Mrs. Rohland's beneficent activity as conductor of the Dominant Ninth Choral Society.

Symphony No. 1, in G Minor
Kalinnikow

- (1) Allegro Moderato.
- (2) Andante Commodeante.
- (3) Scherzo: Allegro Non Troppo.
- (4) Finale: Allegro Moderato.

Micaela's Aria from Carmen.....Bizet
Marie Kaiser.

- (a) Valse Triste, from the Drama
KnolesmaSibelius
- (b) Tone Poem: Finlandia.....Sibelius

PART TWO.

Ballade and Polonaise, Op. 38, for
ViolinVieuxtemps
Richard Czerwonky.

Roumanian Rhapsody No. 2, Op. 11
Enesco

Dance of Nymphs and Satyrs
G. Schumann

Aria: Eri Tu, from The Masked Ball
Verdi

Royal Dadmun.
Overture to Mignon.....A. Thomas

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 3.
Overture—In Springtime, Op. 36
Goldmark

Symphony No. 5, in E Minor, from the
New World, Op. 95.....Dvorak

(1) Adagio—Allegro Molto.

(2) Largo.

(3) Scherzo—Molto Vivace.

(4) Allegro Con Fuoco.

Aria: Voce di Donna, from La
GiocondaPonchielli
Jean Cooper.

PART TWO.

Concerto for Violincello in A Minor
Van Goens

(1) Allegro Non Troppo.

(2) Larghetto.

(3) Allegro Non Troppo.
Cornelius Van Vliet.

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2.....Liszt
(Original Harp Cadenza by Henry J. Williams.)

Prelude to The Deluge (for String Orchestra).....Saint-Saens
Solo Violin—Richard Czerwonky.
Finale to Rheingold (Entrance of the Gods Into Walhalla)....Wagner

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 3,
AT 8:15.

Gounod's "Mors et Vita," and "Redemption."

Literary

China is preparing to honor the memory of John Hay, founder of the policy of the "open door," as no other foreigner, living or dead, ever has been honored in China. A bill has been introduced in the parliament for the erection of a monument to the former American secretary of state in the central park of Peking. Concerning John Hay's activities in behalf of China, William Roscoe Thayer says in "The Life and Letters of John Hay" (Houghton, Mifflin): "Not one of the governments concerned wished to agree to it; each saw more profit to itself in exploiting what it had already secured and in joining in the scramble for more; but not one of them, after Hay had declared for the Open Door, dared openly to oppose the doctrine. It was as if in a meeting he had asked all those who believed in telling the truth to stand up, the liars would not have kept their seats."

♦

What does the Bible say about the living wage? The direct primary? About housing problems? About our political, economic, and social relationships? Under the guidance of Professor Charles Foster Kent, whose book, "The Social Teachings of the Prophets and Jesus," has just been published (Scribners), we come to know the practical value of the Bible in most of our modern social problems, and we discover that it is a veritable power-house of social inspiration.

♦

"The Princess Marie José's Children's Book" (Stokes) is a collection of stories and poems for young folks, dedicated to the little princess of Belgium. The proceeds of its sale will help to buy food and clothing for her little Belgian subjects. Aside from its stories and poems—all by noted writers—the book is a galaxy of pictures by famous illustrators including Dulac, Earnshaw, Reynolds, Will Owen, Harry Rountree, Brangwyn, Raemaekers and W. Heath Robinson.

♦

In the preface to the second edition of "Young India" (Huebsch) Lajpat Rai says: "Nationalism has come to stay and will stay. What will be the upshot is only known to the gods. England may win or lose in the great war in which she is engaged. Indian nationalism will gain in either case. We need not consider how India will fare if England lose. She may come under Mohammedan domination, or the Germans may take possession of her; the English would be gone and then India would enter upon a new life . . . In case, however, England wins, the Indian nationalism will still gain. There will be a demand for political advance, for a change in the political status of the

country and in its relations towards England and her colonies. That demand is sure to be refused. Some minor, petty concessions may be made, but disproportionate to the sacrifices of men and money that India is making in the war. They will not satisfy the country. Disaffection and discontent will grow. The Indians are a chivalrous people; they will not disturb England as long as she is engaged with Germany. The struggle after the war might, however, be even more bitter and more sustained."

♦

Marice Rutledge, author of "The Children of Fate" (Stokes), is a trained novelist who abandons her former writing name because she does not want this earnest novel with its message linked up with earlier work of lighter vein and less importance.

♦

There is an amazing quantity of new information on the subject of trout fishing in "Trout Lore," by O. Warren Smith, a new Stokes publication. The author is angling editor of *Outdoor Life*, and an expert with rod and line. Moreover, he is a humorist and a philosopher. On such subjects as dry-fly, wet-fly, bait and lure, he drives home some hard-headed advice; and he has equally sound suggestions on tugs for the fisherman and how to cook the trout in the pan.

♦

"The House of Harper" reveals many mysteries that have long piqued the curious. Why Mark Twain's "Joan of Arc" was published anonymously is stated thus: The reason for withholding his name was the fact that the public had generally formed the opinion that his pseudonym stood only for humorous entertainment, so that a historical romance, like "Joan of Arc," to which he had given years of study and research, would be an imposition on his audience if issued over his usual literary signature.

♦♦♦

Mrs. Jenkins, a regular visitor in the doctor's consulting room, started on the long story of her troubles. The doctor endured it patiently and gave her another bottle. At last she started out, and the doctor was congratulating himself, when she stopped and exclaimed: "Why, doctor, you didn't look to see if my tongue was coated." "I know it isn't," wearily replied the medical man. "You don't find grass on a race-track."

♦♦♦

New Books Received


Orders for any books reviewed in REEDY'S MIRROR will be promptly filled on receipt of purchase price, with postage added, when necessary. Address, REEDY'S MIRROR, St. Louis, Mo.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A SUPER-TRAMP by William H. Davies. New York: Knopf; \$2.50.

The very well written record of "hobo" life in the middle west by a man who is today a noted poet of England. Beggar, cattleman, pencil and trinket peddler, he squandered and drank what money he made. Then he lost a leg stealing a ride in Canada, and went home to earn distinction in letters. In an introduction to this volume, George Bernard Shaw recommends this most remarkable autobiography of a super-tramp to everybody's attention.

TOWN PLANNING FOR SMALL COMMUNITIES by Charles S. Bird, Jr. New York: Appleton's; \$2.00.

A book of practical suggestions for those who are responsible for planning new towns



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or improving old ones, giving careful consideration to ways and means, general surveys, parks and playgrounds, community life, housing, public health, commercial and industrial improvement, etc., with maps and diagrams. The author was chairman of the Walpole (Mass.) Town Planning Committee, and this book presents the findings of that committee. Indexed.

MUNICIPAL FUNCTIONS by Herman G. James. New York: Appleton's; \$2.00.

Premised on the assertion that municipal advance in a democracy can be achieved only by the realization on the part of the citizenship of what should be the ideal of municipal government, this book treats of the growth of municipal functions, public safety, health, morals, utilities and works, social welfare, city planning, municipal finance, indebtedness, budget and accounting. Important information ably presented. Indexed.

MISINFORMING A NATION by Willard Huntington Wright. New York: B. W. Huebsch; \$1.25.

"Culture in the Enc. Brit." as it appeared serially in "Reedy's Mirror," in book form, with the addition of further critical material.

AN INTRODUCTION OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY by Charles A. Ellwood. New York: Appleton's; \$2.00.

A comprehensive and systematic study of the social life on its psychological side, written with a view to rendering it easily intelligible. The author, professor of sociology in the University of Missouri, holds that social psychology should develop into a well balanced theory of society and become a section of sociology, and that a large part of sociology must necessarily be applied psychology.

JERRY OF THE ISLANDS by Jack London. New York: MacMillan's; \$1.50.

A courageous, resourceful Irish terrier half human, and the chronicle of his adventurous, colorful life. A companion to "The Call of the Wild."

BETTER MEALS FOR LESS MONEY by Mary Green. New York: Henry Holt; \$1.25.

Sensible suggestions for general culinary economy, and seven hundred recipes, some requiring only a small amount of meat; vegetable dishes which take the place of meats; breads, cakes and desserts requiring only a small amount of butter and eggs, etc., by an instructor of a famous cooking school.

THE SONG OF THE SIRENS by Grace Denio Litchfield. New York: Putnam; \$1.00.

What song sang the sirens, that Ulysses

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had himself lashed to the mast that he might not follow, and his sailors' ears stopped with wax that they might not hear? Here a fine poet gives her version in answer to the query.

HAND BOOK OF THE NEW THOUGHT by Horatio W. Dresser. New York: Putnam; \$1.25.

A serious attempt to bring together the general teachings of the New Thought movement in the light of accepted scientific standards.

THE RUBBISH HEAP by "Rita." New York: Putnam; \$1.40.

A new mystery romance by the author of "The Iron Stair."

THE SECOND YOUTH by Allan Updegraff. New York: Harpers; \$1.35.

The first novel of a popular short story writer, being the middle aged romance of a philosophical and sentimental American business man. Frontispiece.

AN OLD WINE IN A NEW BOTTLE by N. O. Ruggles. Boston: Gorham Press; 50c.

An evolutionist's religious philosophy in story form.

THE DIARY OF AN EXPECTANT MOTHER. Chicago: A. C. McClurg; \$1.25.

An effort to make motherhood attractive to those who fearfully shun it. Illustrated.

THE RAILROAD PROBLEM by Edward Hungerford. Chicago: A. C. McClurg; \$1.50.

A careful study of the physical and financial plight that has overtaken the railroads, with an outline of what they must do for themselves to bring about a cure. An interesting chapter is on the railroads in relation to national defense. Illustrated and indexed.

GOLD MUST BE TRIED BY FIRE by Richard Aumerle Maher. New York: MacMillan; \$1.50.

A pleasing romance by the author of "The Shepherd of the North."

♦♦♦

When passing behind a street car, look out for the car approaching from the opposite direction.

An Opportunity--Unimproved

AND now a word about another kind of St. Louis real estate--about the splendid possibilities of a vacant lot.

There is nothing mysterious about a building. It stands fixed and tangible in the sunlight, representing so much brains, material and labor. It can be duplicated in another place for a definite sum of money. It can be used by its owner to live or work in, or it can be rented to other people for similar purposes. It has, moreover, a tendency to fix the value of the ground it stands on. Because that ground cannot be used--without considerable expense--for other purposes than those for which the building is designed.

But a vacant lot is different. Here you have a thing which seems valueless in itself--even a minus quantity in value when you think of taxes and interest--but which is rich in possibilities.

There are only so many vacant lots in St. Louis and St. Louis County and Missouri and the world. But the population of St. Louis and St. Louis County and Missouri and the world is steadily growing. Therefore, as a general statement, the value of all real estate in each of those widening circles is **inevitably** increasing.

A vacant lot in St. Louis (and true St. Louis occupies 200 square miles, with over a million inhabitants) is a storehouse of use and profit possibilities. Those possibilities are rightfully or mistakenly discounted in the price at which you can buy the lot.

As a general rule in St. Louis to-day that price is **lower** than it should be. Let's tell you why.

In the first place, in a deal for a vacant lot the buyer has a psychological, but often a very real advantage over the seller.

Because the seller is disposing of an asset which in its present shape costs taxes and interest to carry and which must be sold or improved before it will realize anything at all.

Secondly, the St. Louis Real Estate market in the spring of 1917 is a buyer's market. St. Louis is **undercapitalized**. We have been very busy developing our trade territory and putting up money to drain farm land in Southeast Missouri, to build railroads through the great Southwest, to construct office buildings in Oklahoma and hotels in Texas. Our own real estate--especially vacant--has not had and does not now have the demand which its real increases in value would

give it if it were located in a city less generous to surrounding developments than St. Louis.

Thirdly, St. Louis has **jumped** in the past year. Our population, our business, our industries and our wealth have surged forward at a record-breaking pace. Real estate is always the last investment to fluctuate in value and St. Louis real estate has not yet reflected the city's unusual spurt ahead. But the time is ripe and the tide is on the turn.

Fourthly, **St. Louis has no purely speculative vacant**. Its real estate men have always followed human needs, not tried to create speculative demand.

Not a single foot of ground in St. Louis is being offered on a blue-sky basis. The real estate buyer, however unskilled, can absolutely gauge the future progress of any given section.

St. Louis' transportation lines are known quantities. The trends of its residential and business development are following lines that they have followed for years--lines almost as well defined as the courses of the stars. St. Louis real estate has never been, is not being, and probably never can be boomed.

Lastly, the prospective buyer of St. Louis vacant can see for himself the steady, sure, sane and satisfactory increase which its values show for the past fifteen years. We give here examples taken from every part of town, eastern, western, southern, northern, central and suburban. The facts speak for themselves.

A piece of vacant ground, to pay taxes, interest and a profit, should increase in value at least 10% a year. Thousands of St. Louis lots have beaten that average, are beating it and will beat it.

Suppose You Had Bought

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The County—All around Washington University and the Country Club.

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